English Villanies

SIX SEVERALL TIMES

Preſt to Death by the Printers; But (ſtill reviving againe) are now the ſeventh time, (as at firſt) diſcovered by *Lanthorne and Candle-light*, And

The helpe of a New Cryer, called *O-Per-Se-O:*

VVhoſe lowd voyce proclaimes to all that will heare him, Another Conſpiracie of Abuſes lately plotting together, to hurt the peace of this Kingdome; which the Bell-man (becauſe *hee then went ſtumbling i'th darke*) could Never ſee till Now.

And becauſe a Company of Rogues, cunning Canting Gypſies, and all the ſcumme of our Nation right heere vnder their owne *Tottered Colours:*

At the end is a Canting Dictionary, to teach their Language: with Canting Songs.

by Tho. Dekker

A Booke to make { *Gentlemen Merry.* / *Citizens Warie.* / *Countreymen Careſull.*

Fit for all Iuſtices to Reade over, becauſe it is a Pilot, by whom they may make Strange Diſcoveries.

LONDON,
Printed by *Auguſtine Matthewes*, and are to bee ſold by *Iohn Griſmond*, at the Signe of the Gunne in Ivie lane. 1632.

The Bell-mans Cry.

MEn and Children, Maides and Wiues,
'Tis not too late to mend your liues:
Midnight feastings are great wasters,
Seruants ryots vndoe Maisters.
When you heare this ringing Bell,
Thinke it is your latest Knell:
Foure a Clocke the Cocke is crowing,
I must to my home be going:
When all other men doe rise,
Then must I shut vp mine eyes.

To

TO
THE GLORY OF
MIDDLESEX,
THE HONOVRABLE
and worthily deſerving Gentlemen, His MAIESTIES Iuſtices for the Peace in that populous Countie.

TO whom but to you (Noble Gentlemen, and worthy *Patriots* of your County) ſhould I Dedicate theſe my *Labors*: the ſicke man ſends to his Doctor, the wounded man to his Chirurgion: you are both; & the Common-wealth cryes out to you for remedy: Petty enormities are the diſeaſes, and Grand impieties are the ſtabbs that go deepe into her body. I bat open the ſores and ſhew how foule they are, the Balme is yours & yours the skill to drop it in: It is better to empty Iayles, then to fill hoſpitalls, to hang a theefe, ſaue the true-man, but corruption fedde, fattens miſchiefe.

Few Saints walke vp and downe the Citty, fewer in the Suburbs: they are the limbs infected: there many a leg is fit to bee cut off: If therefore there were not Seſſions houſes, wee ſhould ſcarce have houſes to dwell in, ſhould not ſuch as you ſit there, it were no walking any where: for ſo our fore-fathers did complaine, ſo we do complaine, and ſo poſterity ſhal complaine, that freſh villanies and abuſes are begotten, borne, and grow vp in all parts of this Kingdom. And for that cauſe, *Iuſtice* had need to haue many hands to ſtrike, & many ſwords

to ſtrike home: Were ſheeborne blinde (as the painters ſay ſhee is) the wickednesſe of this age, is able to lift her eye-lids open. But ſhee ſits by you cleare-ſighted, and *Mercy* by her, with a hand as ſoft, as euer ſigned pardon to a condemned Priſoner. Yet to ſuch a Monſtrous and vgly body, is Iniquity growne, that if the voyce of *Iuſtice*, ſhould every houre in the day, and every day in the weeke ſentence offendors to their deſerui'gs, the whippe and the Halter would neuer lye quiet: a Beadle would not be able to lift his armes to his head, nor the Hangman to walke on foote to *Tyborne*.

You have ſtrong hands over the people, & are feared where you dwell: get as ſtrong hearts, and care not how the many-headed Beaſt roares, ſo the republique loues you. He is a true *Iuſtice* that can ſearch the diſeaſe to the bottome, and has medicines to cure it: and ſuch are you: are there any of that character not ſuch? *Dij Meliora.* But as in an Army, all are not Souldiers that fight and beare Armes; No more is every one a *Iuſtice* that beares the name, But he that is ſo, both *Nomine & Re*; ſuch a one as is furniſhed with Learning, Law, Equity, Iudgement, Integrity, Diſcretion: If you are all ſuch (as it is not for me to doubt) you are a braue company. I often ſee (for petty crimes) people hurried along the ſtreets: what a noiſe keepes them company! How thoſe Bells in womens mouthes Iangle! How they cry out to goe, not before ſuch a one, but before ſuch a one! Why ſhould the face of one *Iuſtice* be more terrible then another! why his name! why his warrant! It is as when crazy bodies are driuen to Apothecaries: *Iulops* goe downe ſmoothly, bitter pills choake: They loue to ſee *Naomi* in your Parlors, not *Mara*. I preach without a pulpit: this is no Sermon, but an Epiſtle Dedicatory, which dedicates theſe diſcoueries, and my threeſcore yeeres deuotedly.

Yours in my beſt Seruice,
Tho: Dekker.

To the Reader.

IT is now about 18. yeeres paſt, ſince a Brood of ſtrange Snakes were found: They were then but in the ſhell, yet when they were fully hatch'd, and began to crawle out; their poyſon ſpread it ſelfe into all the parts & veines of the Kingdome, but the ſtench of the venome braue out moſt in and about London.

Candle-light was then the firſt that diſcouered that curſed Nurſery of Vipers: what was the Broode thinke you? All ſorts of witty Cheaters, Tame Cony-catchers, and ſuttle Croſſe-biters, &c. But this were (as the *Spaniard* ſayes) Peccadilla, petty ſinnes, Pigmy-villanies to theſe Giants which after Roar'd about the World, and the honeſt Intelligencer, that firſt opened the Den of theſe Monſters, was the *Bel-man* of London.

Here he ſhewes you their pictures, and not the pictures onely, but the miſhapen perſons themſelues. In drawing of whoſe filthy proportions, albeit the poore *Bel-man* tooke infinite paynes, yet, when it was once Fam'd, what an excellent worke he was in hand with, A curious number of Noble Gentlemen joyn'd their Councels to the *Belmans* vndertakings.

Some ſent him delicate Pencils, ſome Notes, how and where to lay on ſuch and ſuch Colours: Others taught him how to ſhaddow ſome of theſe villanies, by ſetting off the abuſes were, but not hanging forth the party for a ſigne. So that, where at the beginning, the *Bel man* feared hee ſhould have vvanted vvorke: In the end he had more then he could turne his hands to.

Heartned with theſe Auxiliary forces, he came brauely into the field, not caring what Canons of mitchiefe, this Army of Furies (here muſtered together) could or durſt diſcharge againſt him.

But now, whole Acres of new, and as yet vnknowne weedes are crep't vp, which the *Bel-man* with his finger points to, and shewes them to the eye of *Iustice*, that she being the best, and ablest Gardner, to vweed the Republique, & (hauing cleansed it) to dresse it vp, neately, and in order, may so plucke them vp by the roote, they may no more be seene to deface so goodly a Common-wealth.

All that before was written, or is now newly added, is to yeeld thee profit, and pleasure. Neither wonder how the *Bel-man* should lay open such a number of Villanies, vnlesse he himselfe should in his owne person, cry guilty to al: No: an Apothecary may know all poisons, yet practise them vpon none. He neuer poysons himselfe; yet after the strongest and most killing ones are corrected, hee giues them Physically, for his Patients preservation.

So they are prescribed to thee here, to the end that by knowing the secret mischiefes, abuses, villanies, and trecheries of the World, thou mayest arme thy selfe against them, or guard thy friend by advice from them: He sayes as the wanton Poet does of himselfe.

Lascina est nobis Pagina, vita proba est.

Reade and Laugh.
Reade and Learne.
Reade and Loath.

Laugh at the Knauery,
Learne out the Mystery.
Loath the base Villany.

Farewell.

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A Canting Dictionary, with Canting Songs.

THE BEL-MANS SECOND NIGHTS WALKE.

With his O *per se* O.

CHAP. I.

What matters vvere tryed at a Terme that vvas in Hell.

IT was Terme time in Hell, by which means Don Lucifer had better doings and more rapping at his gates, then all the Doctors and Empericall Quack-salvers of ten Cities haue at theirs in a great Plague time.

A description of the hall where matters are tryed in Hel

The Hall where these Termers were to try their causes, was very large and strongly built, but it had one fault, it was so hot that people could not endure to walke there: Yet to walke there they were compelled, by reason they were drawne thither vpon occasions, and such tuttling there was of one another, that it would haue grieued any man to bee in the throngs amongst them. Nothing could be heard but noise, and nothing of that noyse be vnderstood, but that it was a sound, as of men in a Kingdome, when on a suddaine it is in an vproare. Euery one brabled with him that hee walked with, or if he did but tell his tale to his Councell, he was so eager in the very deliuery of that tale, that you would haue sworne he did brabble: and such gnashing of teeth there was when Aduersaries met together, that the syling of ten thousand Saws cannot yeeld a sound more horrible. The Iudge of the Court had a deuillish countenance, and as cruell he was in punishing those that

were condemned by Law, as he was crabbed in his lookes, whilest he sate to heare their tryalls.

But albeit there was no pittie to be expected at his hands, yet was hee so vpright in Iustice, that none could euer fasten bribe vpon him, for he was ready & willing to heare the Cryes of all commers. Neither durst any Pleader (at the infernall Barre) or any Officer of the Court, exact any fee of Plaintiffes, and such as complained of wrongs and were oppreſt: but onely They payd that were the wrong doers, those would they see damn'd ere they should get out of their fingers, such fellowes they were appointed to vere at the very soule.

The customes and condition of the Court.

The matters that here were put in suite, were more then could be tryed in twenty Vacations, yet should a man be dispatched out of hand. In one terme he had his Iudgment: for here they neuer stand vpon Returnes, but presently come to Triall. The causes decided here, are many; the Clients that complaine many, the Counsellors (that pleade till they be hoarse) many; the Attournies (that run vp and downe,) infinite. the Clarkes of the Court, not to be numbred. All these haue their hands full; day and night are they so plagued with the bawling of Clients, that they neuer can rest.

The Inke wherewith they write, is the blood of Coniurers: they haue no paper, but al things are engrossed in Parchment, and that Parchment is made of Scriueners skinnes flayed off, after they haue beene punished for Forgerie: their Standishes are the Sculs of Vsurers: their Pennes, the bones of vnconscionable Brokers, and hard hearted Creditors, that haue made Dice of other mens bones, or else of perjured Executors and blind Ouer-seers, that haue eaten vp Widdowes and Orphans to the bare bones, and those Pennes are made of purpose without Nebs, because they may cast Inke but slowly in mockery of those, who in their life time were slow in yeelding drops of pittie.

What matters are tryed before the Deuill.

Would you know what actions are tryed here? I will but turne ouer the Records and reade them vnto you as they hang vpon the Pyle.

The Courtier is sued here, and condemned for Ryots.

The Souldier is sued here, and condemned for Murders.

The Scholler is sued here, and condemned for Heresies.

The

The Citizen is sued here, and condemned for the Citi-sins: their wiues for Pride, and seruants for Stealth.

The Farmer is sued here vpon Penal Statutes, and condemned for spoyling the Markets.

Actions of battery are brought against Swaggerers, and here they are bound to the Peace.

Actions of Waste are brought against Drunkards and Epicures, and here they are condemned to begge at the Grate for one droppe of cold water to coole their tongues, or one crum of bread to stay their hunger, yet are they denyed it.

Harlots haue processe sued vpon them here, & are condemned to Howling, to Rottennesse, and to Stench. No Acts of Parliament that haue passed the Vpper-house, can be broken, but here the breach is punished, & that seuerely, and that suddenly: For here they stand vpon no demurres, no Audita Querela can here be gotten, no writs of Errors to reuerse Iudgement: here is no flying to a Court of Chancerie for reliefe, yet euery one that comes hither is serued with a Subpæna. No, they deale altogether in this Court vpon the Habeas Corpus, vpon the Capias, vpon the Ne exeat Regnum, vpon Rebellion, vpon heauie Fines (but no Recoueries) vpon writs of Out-lawry, to attache the body for euer, & last of all vpon Executions after Iudgment, which being serued vpon a man is his Euerlasting Vndoing. Heauen

Such are the Customes and courses of procedings in the Offices belonging to the Prince of Darkenesse. These hotte doings hath hee in his Terme-times. But vpon a day when a great matter was to bee tryed betweene an Englishman and a Dutch-man, which of the two were the soolelst Drinkers, and the case beeing long time in arguing, by reason that strong euidence came in rolling on both sides, (yet it was thought that the English-man would carry it away, and cast the Dutch-man) on a suddaine all was staid by the sound of a horne that was heard at the lower end of the Hall. And euery one looking backe (as wondring at the strangenesse) roome, roome, was cryed and made through the thickest of the crowd, for a certaine Spirit in the likenesse of a Poste, who made way on a little leane Nag vp to the Bench

where Iudge Radamanth with his two grim Brothers (Minos and Æacus) sate. This Spirit was an intelligencer sent by Belzebub of Barathrum, into some Countries of Christendome to lye there as a spie, and had brought with him a packet of letters from seuerall Legiers that lay in those Countries, for the seruice of the Tartarian, their Lord and Master; which packet being opened all the Letters (because they concerned the generall good and state of those low Countries in Hell) were publikely read. The contents of that letter that stung most, and put them all out of their Law cases, tended to this purpose.

A Letter against the Bel-man.

THat whereas the Lord of the fierie Lakes had his Ministers in all Kingdoms aboue the earth, whose Offices were not onely to win the Subiects of other Princes to his obedience, but also to giue notice when any of his owne sworne houshold or any other that held league with him should reuolt or flie from their allegeance: also to discouer from time to time all plots, conspiracies, machinations, or vnderminings, that should be laid (albeit they that durst lay them should dig deepe inough) to blow vp his great infernall City: so that if his horned Regiment were not suddenly mustred together, and did not lustily bestirre their clouen stumps, his territories would be shaken, his Dominions left in time vnpeopled, his forces looked into, and his authority which he held in the world, contemned and laughed to scorne. The reason was, that a certaine fellow: The child of Darkenesse, a common Night-walker, a man that had no man to waite vpon him but only a Dog, one that was a disordered person, and at midnight would beate at mens doores, bidding them (in meere mockerie) to looke to their candles, when they themselues were in their dead sleeps: and albeit he was an Officer, yet he was but of light carriage, being knowne by the name of the Bel-man of London, had of late not onely drawne a number of the Deuils owne kindred into question for their liues, but had also, onely, by the helpe of the Lanthorne and Candle looke into the secrets of the best trades that are taught in Hell, laying them open to the broad eye of the world, making them infamous, odious, and ridiculous: yea, and not satisfied with doing this wrong to his deuil-ship,

The Bel-man

nel-ſhip, very ſpitefully hath he ſet them out in print, drawing their pictures ſo to the life, that now a horſe-ſtealer ſhall not ſhew his head, but a halter with the hangmans nooſe is ready to be faſtned about it: A Foyſt nor a Nip ſhall not walke into a Fayre or a Playhouſe, but every cracke will cry, looke to your purſes: nor a poore common Rogue come to a mans doore, but he ſhall be examined if he can Cant. If this Bawling fellow therefore have not his mouth ſtop't, the light Angels that are coyned below, will never be able to paſſe as they have done, but be nayled up for counterfeits. Hell will have no doings, and the Deuill be no body.

This was the lyning of the Letter, and this Letter drave them all to a Non-plus, becauſe they knew not how to anſwere it. But at laſt advice was taken, the Court drake up, the Terme was adiourned (by reaſon that the Hel-hounds were thus plagu'd) and a common counſell in hell, was preſently called how to redreſſe theſe abuſes.

The Sathanicall Synagogue being ſet, up ſtarts the Father of Hell and Damnation, and looking very terribly, with a paire of eyes, that ſtared as wide as the Mouth gapes at Biſhopsgate, fetching foure or five deepe ſighes (which were nothing elſe but the Smoke of fire and Brimſtone boyling in his ſtomacke, and ſhewed as if he were taking Tobacco, which he often times does) told his children and ſervants (and the reſt of the Citizens that dwelt within the freedome of Hell, and ſate there before him upon narrow low formes) that they never had more cauſe to lay their heads together, and to grow politicians. For and they all knew that from all the corners of the earth ſome did every houre in a day creepe forth, to come and ſerve him: yea, that many thouſands were ſo bewitched with his favours, and rare parts, that they would come running quicke to him: his dominions (he ſayd) were great, and full of people: Emperours, and Kings, (in infinite number) were his ſlaves, his Court was full of Princes: if the world were divided (as ſome report) but into three parts, two of thoſe three were his; or if (as others affirme) into foure, almoſt three of that foure he had firme footing in.

But if ſuch a fellow as a treble voyc'd Belman, ſhould be

suffered with his night-rimes to pry into the infernall Mysteries, and into those blacke Arts, which command the spirits of the Deepe, and hauing sucked what knowledge hee can from them, to turne it all into poyson, and to spit it in the very faces of the professors, with a malicious intent to make them appeare vgly, and so to grow hatefull and out of fauour with the world, if such a Conjurer at midnight should dance in their circles and not be driuen out of them, hell in a few yeres would not be worth the dwelling in. The great Lord of Limbo did therefore command all his blacke guard that stood about him, to bestirre them in their places, and to defend the Court wherin they liued: threatning (besides) that his curse, and all the plagues of stinking hell should fall vpon his officers, seruants and subjects, vnlesse they either aduis'd him how, or take some spædy order themselues whē to punish that saucie intelligencer the Bel-man of London. Thus he spake and then sate downe.

At last, a foolish Deuill rose vp and shot the bolt of his aduice, which flew thus farre: That the Blacke-Dogge of Newgate should againe bee let loose, and a farre off follow the Bauling Bel-man, to watch into what places hee went, and what deedes of darkenesse (euery night) he did. Hinc Risus. The whole Synodicall assembly fell a laughing at this wiseacre, so that neither he, nor his black Dog durst barke any more.

Others stept vp, some pronouncing one verdict, some another: But at the last, it was concluded & set down as a rule in Court that some one strange spirit, who could transport himselfe into all shapes, should be sent vp to London, and scorning to take reuenge vpon so meane a person as a Bel-ringer, should thrust himselfe into such companies (as in a warrant to be signed for that purpose) should be nominated, & being once growne familiar with them, he was to worke and win them by all possible meanes, to fight vnder the dismall & black colours of the Grand Sophy (his Lord and Master) the fruit that was to grow vpon this tree of euill, would be great, for it should be fit serued vp to Don Lucifers Table, as a new banquetting Dish, sithence all other meats, (though they fatted him well) were growne stale.

Hereupon Pamerstill the Messenger was called, a Passport was drawne, signed and deliuered to him, with certaine instructions

ſtrudions how to carry himſelfe in his trauell. And thus much was openly ſpoken to him by word of mouth.

Fly Pamerlie with ſpeed to the great and populous Citie in the Weſt: wind thy ſelfe into all ſhapes: bee a Dogge (to fawne) a Dragon (to confound) bee a Doue (ſeeme innocent) bee a Deuill (as thou art,) and ſhew that thou art a Iourniman to Hell. Build rather thy neſt amongſt Willowes that bend euery way, then on tops of Oakes, whoſe heads are hard to be broken: Flie with the Swallow, cloſe to the earth, when ſtormes are at hand; but keepe company with birds of greater talons, when the weather is cleere, and neuer leaue them till they looke like Ruens: creepe into boſomes that are buttoned vp in Sattin, and there ſpread the wings of thine infection: make euery head thy pillow to leane vpon, or vſe it like a Mall onely to grind miſchiefe. If thou meeteſt a Dutchman, drinke with him: if a Frenchman, ſtab: if a Spaniard, betray: if an Italian poyſon: if an Iriſhman, flatter: if an Engliſhman, doe all this.

Haunt Tauerns, there thou ſhalt find Prodigals: pay thy two pence to a Player, in his Gallery mayeſt thou ſit by a Harlot; at Ordinaries mayeſt thou dine with ſilken fooles: when the day ſteales out of the world, thou ſhalt meete rich Drunkards vnder welted gownes, ſearch for theſe in the hundred hugge thoſe golden villaines, they ſhine bright, and will make a good ſhow in Hell: ſtrike with a cricket in the Brew-houſe, and watch how they coniure there: Ride vp and downe Smithfield, and play the Iade there: Viſite Priſons, and teach Taylors how to make nets of Iron there: bind thy ſelfe Prentize to the beſt trades: but if thou canſt grow extreme rich in a very ſhort time (honeſtly;) I baniſh thee my Kingdome, come no more into hell, I haue red thee a lecture, follow it farewell.

No ſooner was farewell ſpoken, but the ſpirit to whom all theſe matters were giuen in charge, vaniſhed: the clouen footed Orator aroſe, and the whole aſſembly went about their damnable buſineſſe.

Of *Gul-groping*.

CHAP. II.

How Gentlemen are cheated at Ordinaries.

The Deuils foote-man was very nimble of his heeles, for no wild Irish-man could outrunne him, and therefore in a few houres was he come vp to London: the miles betweene Hell and any place vpon earth, being shorter then those betweene London and Saint Albones, to any man that trauells from hence thither, or to any Lacky that comes from thence hither, on the deuils errands: but to any other poore soule, that dwels in those Low countries, they are neuer at an end, and by him are not possible to be measured.

No sooner was he entred into the Citie, but he met with one of his Masters daughters, called Pride, drest like a Merchants wife, who taking acquaintance of him, and vnderstanding for what he came, told him, that the first thing he was to doe, hee must put himselfe in good cloathes, such as were sutable to the fashion of the time, for that here, men were look'd vpon onely for their outsides: hee that had not ten pounds worth of wares in his shop, would carry twenty markes on his backe: that there were a number of sumpter-horses in the Citie, who cared not how coursely they fed, so they might weare gay trappings: yea, that some pyed fooles, to put on Sattin and Veluet but foure dayes in the yeere, did oftentimes vndoe themselues, wiues, and children euer after. The spirit of the Deuils Buttery hearing this, made a legge to Pride for her counsell, and knowing by his owne experience that euery Taylor hath his hell to himselfe, vnder his Shop-board, (where he damnes new Sattin) amongst them hee thought to finde best welcome, and therefore into Birchin-lane hee stalkes very mannerly, Pride going along with him, & taking the vpper hand.

Birchin-Lane described.

No sooner was hee entred into the rankes of the Linnen Armorers, (whose weapons are Spanish needles) but he was most terribly and sharpely set vpon, euery prentize boy had a pull at him: hee feared they all had beene Sericants, because they all had him by the backe: neuer was poore deuill so tormented in hell, as hee was amongst them: hee thought it had

Taylors at first were called *Linnen Armorers*.

Sericants.

had beene Saint Thomas his day, and that he had beene called vpon to be Constable, there was such hauling in his eares, and no strength could shake them off, but that they must shew him some mites of apparell, because they saw what Gentlewoman was in his company (whom they all know.) Seeing no remedy, into a shop he goes, was fitted bravely, and bearing the price, found it lower to be vnreasonable, yet paid it and departed, none of them (by reason of their crowding about him before) perceiuing what customer they had met with; but now the Magot spying the deuill, suffered him to goe, neuer praying that hee would know the shop another time, but looking round about his ware-house if nothing were missing, at length he found that he had lost his conscience: yet remembring himselfe, that they who deale with the deuill, can hardly keepe it, he stood vpon it the lesse.

The fashions of an Ordinary.

THe Scygian traueller being thus translated into an accomplished Gallant, with all accoutrements belonging (as a feather for his head gilt rapier for his sloes, and new bootes to hide his poll foote, for in Bedlam he met with a shoomaker, a mad slaue, that knew the length of his last) it rested onely, that now hee was to enter vpon company sutable to his cloathes: and knowing that your most selected Gallants are the onely tablemen that are playd withall at Ordinaries, into an Ordinarie did hee most Gentleman-like conuay himselfe in state.

It seemed that all who came thither, had clockes in their bellies, for they all strucke into the dyning roome much about the very minute of feeding. Our Cauelier had all the eyes (that came in) throwne vpon him, (as being a stranger, for no Ambassador from the Deuill euer dined amongst them before) and he as much tooke speciall notice of them. In obseruing of whom and of the place, hee found, that an Ordinarie was the onely Randeuz for the most ingenious, most terse, most trauail'd, and most fantastick Gallant: the very Exchange for newes out of all Countryes: the onely Booke-sellers shop for conference of the best Editions, that if a woman (to be a Lady) would cast away her selfe vpon a Knight, there a

plain

man ſhould heare a Catalouge of meſt of the richeſt London widdowes: and laſt, that it was a Schoole where they were all fellowes of one forme, and that a country Gentleman was of as great cunning as the proudeſt Juſtice that ſate there on the Bench aboue him: for he that had the graine of the table with his trencher, payd no more then hee that placed himſelfe beneath the ſalt. Here he heard fooles prate, perceiu'd knaues collect, and beheld wiſemen dumbe.

The Deuills intelligencer could not bee contented to fill his eye onely with theſe obiects, and to feede his belly with delicate cheere: but he drew a larger picture of all that were there, and in theſe colours.

The boyder hauing clear'd the Table, Cards and Dice (for the laſt Meſſe) are ſerued vp to the boord: they that are full of coyne draw: they that haue little, ſtand by and giue ayme: they ſhuffle and cut on one ſide: the bones rattle on the other: long haue they not play'd, but oathes flie vp and downe the roome like haile-ſhot: if the poore dumbe Dice be but a little out of ſquare, the Pox and a thouſand plagues breake their neckes out at a window: preſently after, the foure knaues are ſent packing the ſame way, or elſe (like heretikes) are condemned to bee burnt.

In this battaile of Cards and Dice, are ſeuerall Regiments and ſeuerall Officers,

They that ſit downe to play, are at firſt call'd Leaders.

They that looſe are the Forlorne Hope.

He that winnes all, is the Eagle.

He that ſtands by and Ventures, is the Wood-pecker.

The freſh Gallant that is fetcht in is the Gull.

He that ſtands by and lends, is the Gul-groper or Impoſt-taker.

The Gul-groper.

THis Gul-groper, is commonly an olde Money-monger, who hauing trauailed through all the follies of the world in his youth, knowes them well, and ſhunnes them in his age, his whole felicity being to fill his baggs with gold and ſiluer: he comes to an Ordinary, to ſaue charges of houſe-keeping, and will eate for his two ſhillings, more meate then will ſerue three of the Guard at a dinner, yet ſweares hee comes thither onely

onely for the company, and to converse with trauellers. It is a Gold-Finch that seldome flies to these Ordinarie Nests, without a hundred or two hundred pound in twenty shilling pieces about him. After the tearing of some seuen payre of Cards, or the damning of some ten baile of Dice, steps he vpon the stage, and this part he playes. If any of the Forlorne Hope bee a Gentleman of meanes, either in Esse, or in Posse, (and that the old Fore will be sure to know to halfe an Acre) whose money runnes at a low ebbe, as may appeare by his scratching of the head, and walking vp and downe the roome, as if he wanted an Ostler: The Gulgroper takes him to a side window, and tells him, he is sorry to see his hard lucke, but the Dice are made of womens bones, and will couzen any man, yet for his Fathers sake (whom he hath knowne so long) if it please him hee shall not leaue off play for a hundred pound or two. If my young Estrich gape to swallow downe this mettall (as for the most part they are very greedy, hauing such prouander set before them) then is the gold powred on the board, a Bond is made for a repayment, at the next quarter day, when Exhibition is sent in: and because it is all gold, and cost so much the changing, the Scriuener (who is a whelpe of the Vsurers owne breeding) knowes what woordes will bite, which thus hee fastens vpon him, and in his net the Gull is sure to be taken (howsoeuer:) for if he fall to play againe, and loose, the hoary Goat-bearded Satyre that stands at his elbow, laughs in his sleeue: if his baggs bee so recouered of their Falling-sicknesse, that they be able presently to repay the borrowed gold, then Monsieur Gul-groper steales away of purpose to auoyde the receipt of it, he hath fatter Chickens in hatching: it is a fairer marke he shootes at. For the day being come when the Bond growes due, the within named Signior Auaro, will not be within: or if he bee at home, he hath wedges enough in his pate, to cause the Bond to be broken: or else a little before the day, hee feedes my young Master with sweete woords, that surfetting vpon his protestations, he neglects his payment, as presuming he may doe more. But the Law hauing a hand in the forfeiture of the Bond, layes presently hold of our young Gallant with the helpe of a couple of Seriants, and iust at such a time when old Erra Pater (the

Iew) that lent him the money, knowes by his owne Prognostication, that the Moone with the siluer face is with him in the waine. Nothing thencan free him out of the pangs of these blood-hounds, but he must presently confesse a iudgment, for so much money, or for such a Manor or Lord-ship (three times worth the bond forfeited) to be paid, or to be entred vpon by him, by such a day, or within so many moneths after hee comes to his land. And thus are yong heires cousened of their Acres, before they well know where they lie.

The Wood-pecker

THe Wood-pecker is a Bird that sits vpon a perch for: but is nothing so dangerous as the Vulture spoken of before. Hee deales altogether vpon Returnes, (as men doe that take three for one at their comming backe from Ierusalem, &c.) for hauing a Iewel, a Cloake, a Ring with a Diamond, or any such like commodity, he notes him well that commonly is best acquainted with the Dice and hath euer good lucke: to him hee offers his prize, rating it at ten or fifteene pound, when happily it is not worth aboue six, and for it he bargaines to receiue fiue shillings or ten shillings (according as it is in value) at euery hand, second, third, or fourth hand he drawes: by which meanes he perhaps in a short time, makes that yeild him forty or fifty pound, which cost not halfe twenty. Many of these Merchant venturers saile from Ordinary to Ordinary, being sure alwayes to make sauing voyages, when they that put in tenne times more then they are for the most part loosers.

The Gull.

NOw if either the Leaders, or The forlorne Hope, or any of the rest, chance to heare of a young fresh-water Souldier that neuer before followed these strange warres, and yet hath a charge newly giuen him (by the olde fellow Soldado Vecchio his father, when death had shut him into the Graue) of some ten or twelue thousand in ready money, besides so many hundreds a yeere: first are Scouts sent out to discouer his Lodging: that knowne, some lye in ambush to note what Apothecaries shoppe hee resorts to euery morning or in what Tobacco-shop in Fleetstreete he takes a pipe of Smoake in the afternoone: that Post which the Puny holds, is sure to be beleagured by the whole troupe of the old

weather

weather-beaten Gallants: amongst whom some one, whose wit is thought to bee of a better blocke for his head, than the rest, is appointed to single out our Novice, and after some foure or fiue dayes spent in complement, our heire to seuen hundred a yeere is drawne to an Ordinary, into which hee no sooner enters, but all the old ones in that Nest flutter about him, embrace, protest, kisse the hand, Conge to the very garter, and in the end (to shew that hee is no small foole, but that hee knowes his father left him not so much mony for nothing,) the young Cub suffers himselfe to bee drawne to the stake: to flesh him, Fortune and the Dice (or rather the false Dice, that cozen Fortune, and make a foole of him too) shall so fauour him, that hee marches away from a battaile or two the only winner. But afterwards, let him play how warily so euer he can, the damned Dice shall crosse him, and his siluer crosses shall blesse those that play against him: for euen they that seeme deerest to his bosome shall first be ready, and bee the foremost to enter with the other Leaders into conspiracy, how to make spoyle of his golden bags. By such ransacking of Citizens sonnes wealth, the Leaders maintaine themselues braue, the Forlorne Hope, that drooped before, doth now gallantly come on. The Eagle feathers his nest, the Wood-pecker picks vp the crums, the Gul-groper growes fatte with good feeding: and the Gull himselfe, at whom euery one has a Pull, hath in the end scarse feathers enough to keepe his owne backe warme.

To these there is another to bee added, no lesse pernicious then any, and indeed somewhat more in the Deuills fauour, by as much as the deceit is commonly couered with the greatest persons, and this is the Impostor or Impostaker, this fellow is euer of the greatest eminence, & as an Atlas supports the Ordinary on his shoulders; he lookes for no fauor from heauen, for he will vse no curtesie on earth, ciuill speech he accounts the fooles Language, and rudenesse he loues more then meat, drink, or humanitie, he cares not on whom he spits, whose Cloake hee teares with his Spurs, nor whose name he durties with foule reproache: This Signior Glorioso being (as it were the Corygidor of the Ordinary, assone as the young Gull is fallen amongst these Rauens, after he hath abused him some fiue or sixe times, and made other fooles bold to doe him the like iniury,

 seeing

seeing he hath possest him with a feare of his humors & admiration of his valour, presently falls into an insinuation with the yong Gull, and from a Tyrant becomes a flatterer, no man then shall dare to doe the Gul disgrace but he is his champion, hee defends his carryage; makes his folly wisedome, his cowardise discretion, his impudence audacitie, his unmannerlinesse courtly education, and all his simplicitie a most Imitable forme of outlandish behauiour, so that the poore Gul proud of his intimacie hides himselfe under this Eagles wing, and thinkes there is no heauen but that to which his friendship beares him. Assoone as the Impostor perceiues this, presently he animates the Gull to all courses of unthriftinesse, especially to game, as to Primero, Gleeke, or the like, in which hee dignifies his cunning so much that the Gull thinkes himselfe a graduate ere he know A.B.C. in the Deuills horne-booke, then to make him more valiant in his owne undoing this Impostor (who is the Loadstone that directs the Guls Compasse) will bee his halfe in game and sit close by his elbow, so as hee may looke into his cards (hauing formerly made his match with a third person who is the opposite Gamester and the Impostors friends halfe also) no game of likely-hood comes into the Guls hand but the Impostor by seueral signes tells it to the aduerse party, as such a motion with his gloue for fiue and sixtie, such a curling of his haire for Prime, such a rubbing of his nose for nine and thirty, such a finger for such a number, such a finger for such, so that the poore Gul shall not haue a Game that he will not discouer; when thus they haue cheated him of all his substance, then the Impostor lends him more mony, till the Guls credit be on the vttermost tenter, then he makes him take money, Iewels, Cloakes, Garments, or any thing vpon Impost, (which is to pay so much vpon euery stake till such a summe be raised, or if it be at Dice, so much vpon euery Maine till such a sum be repayed) and hauing suckt whilest one drop of blood will come; the Impostor beginnes to quarrell in the Guls behalfe, and in that tumult, game is broke off, all are dispersed and the Impostor and his companion share the Guls goods betweene them.

There is also another which is called a deluder, this fellow for the most part is a man of substance; he commonly weares

on

on his little finger of his left hand a fayre table Dyamond, or a square Topas, which turning inwards as he drawes the cards will discouer euery Card he pulleth, and then stopping those which are for his purpose, hee maketh his game as sure as hee had leaue to chuse what cards him pleaseth; If this Deluder be not able to compasse such a Ring, then he will haue a most excellent hatcht Siluer Rapier, so purely polliſht and trimd, that no Looking-glasse can shew any figure fayrer, this Rapier hee layes cresse his waſt iust vnder his left hand, and (in it) seeing what cards he draweth, makes the same vse was spoke of the Dyamond, and thus Simplicity being made a leane foole and his plaine dealing a Begger, knaues grow rich as the Deuill; and fed with the curses of vndone people.

The Post-master of Hell, seeing such villany to goe vp and downe in cloakes lined quite through with Veluet, was glad he had such newes to send ouer, and therefore sealing vp a letter full of it, deliuered the same to filthy-boarded Caron (their own Water-man) to be conueied first to the Porter of Hell, and then (by him) to the Maſter keeper of the Deuills.

Of Ferriting

CHAP. III.

The manner of vndooing Gentlemen by taking vp of commodities.

HUnting is a Noble a manly, and healthfull exercise, it is a very true picture of war, nay, it is a war in it selfe, for engines are brought in the field, stratagems contriued, ambushes layd, onsets giuen, alarms strucke vp, braue incounters made, fierce assailing are resisted by strength, by courage, by policy: the enemie is pursued, and the Pursuers neuer giue ouer till they haue him in execution, then is a Retreat sounded, then are spoyles diuided, then come they home wearied, but yet crowned with honour and victory. And as in battailes there be seuerall manners of fight: so in the pastime of hunting, there are seuerall degrées of game.

Some hunt the Lyon, and that shewes, as when Subjects rise in Armes against their King. Some hunt the Vnicorne, for the treasure on his head, and they are like coue-

tous-

tous men, that care not whom they kill for riches. Some hunt the spotted Panther, and the speckled Leopard, they are such as to enioy their pleasures, regard not how blacke an infamie sticks vpon them: all these are barbarous and vnnaturall Hunt-smen, for they range vp and downe the deserts, the wilderneſſe, and the Mountaines. Others pursue the long-liued Hart, the courageous Stag, or the nimble footed Deere: these are the noblest hunters, and they exercise the Noblest game: these by following the Chase, get strength of body, a free and vndisquieted minde, magnanimitie of spirit, alacritie of heart, and vnwearisomneſſe to breake through the hardest labours: their pleasures are not insatiable, but contented to bee kept within limits, for these hunt within Parkes inclosed or within bounded Forrests. The hunting of the Hare teaches feare to be bold, and puts simplicitie to her shifts, that she growes cunning and prouident: the turnings and crosse windings that she makes are emblemes of this lifes vncertainty: when she thinkes she is further from danger, it is at her heeles. and when it is nearest to her, the hand of safety defends her. When she is wearied and hath runne her race, she takes her death patiently, thereby to teach man to make himselfe ready, when the graue gapes for him.

Hunting of the Bucke.

Hunting of the Hare.

All these kinds of hunting are abroad in the open field, but there is a close City hunting only within the walles, that pulls downe Parks, layes open Forrests, destroyes Chaces wounds the Deere of the Land, and makes such havocke of the goodliest Heards, that (by their wils, who are the rangers,) none should be left aliue but the Rascals. This kind of hunting is base and ignoble. It is the meanest, yet the most mischieuous, and it is called Ferreting. To behold a chase or two at this, did the light-horseman of Hell one day leape into the saddle.

City-hunting

THis Ferret-hunting hath his Seasons as other games haue, and is only followed at such a time of yeare, when the Centry of our Kingdome by riots, hauing choked themselues out of the faire reuenewes and large possessions left to them by their ancestors, are forced to hide their heads like Foxes, in little caues, and in vnfrequented places: or else being almost windelesſe, by running after sensual pleasures too fiercely, they

What persons follow the game of Ferret-hunting.

ly, they are glad (for keeping themselues in breath so long as they can) to fall to Ferret-hunting, that is to say, to take vp commodities.

No warrant can be granted for a Bucke in this Forrest, but it must passe vnder these fiue hands.

1. He that hunts vp and downe to finde game, is called, the Tumbler. The Tragedy of Ferret-hunting diuided into fiue acts.

2. The commodities that are taken vp, are called Pursenets.

3. The Citizen that sells them is the Ferrer.

4. They that take vp are the Rabbet-suckers.

5. He vpon whose credit these Rabbet-suckers runne, is called the Warren.

How the Warren is made.

AFter a faine Conies vse to come out of their holes, and to sit nibbling on weedes, or any thing in the cole of the euening, and after a reueling, when younger brothers haue spent all, or in gaming haue lost all, they sit plotting in their chambers, with necessity, how to be furnisht presently with a new supply of money. They would take vp any commoditie whatsoeuer, but their names stand in too many Tetted letters already in Mercers and Scriueners bookes: vpon a hundred pounds worth of Roasted beefe they could finde in their hearts to venture, for that would away in turning of a hand: but where shall they find a Butcher or a Cooke, that will let any man runne so much on the score for flesh onely? Suppose therefore that foure of such loose-fortuned gallants were tyed in one knot, and knew not how to fasten themselues vpon some wealthy Citizen. At length it runnes into their heads, that such a young Novice (who dayly serues to fill vp their company) was neuer intangled in any City lime-bush: they know his present meanes to be good, and those to come to be great: him therefore they lay vpon the Anuile of their wittes, till they haue wrought him like waxe, for himselfe, aswell as for them, to doe any thing in war, or indeed till they haue worne him to slide vpon this Ice (because he knowes not the danger) hee is easily drawne: for hee considers within himselfe that they are all Gentlemen well descended they haue rich fathers, they weare good cloathes, haue bin gallant spenders, and doe

ow, and then (ſtill) let it flye freely: he is to venture vpon no more rockes than all they, what then ſhould he feare? he therefore reſolues to doe it, & the rather becauſe his owne exhibition runnes low, and that there lacke a great many weekes to the Quarter day, at which time, he ſhall be refurniſhed from his father. The match being thus agreed vpon, one of them that has beene an old Ferret-monger, and knowes all the trickes of ſuch hunting ſeekes out a Tumbler, that is to ſay, a fellow, who beates the buſh for them till they catch the Birds, he himſelfe being contented (as he protetts and ſwearres) onely with a few feathers.

The Tumblers hunting dry-foote.

The nature of a London Tumbler.

THis Tumbler being let looſe, runnes Snuffing vp and downe, cloſe to the ground, in the ſhoppes either of Mercers, Goldſmiths, Drapers, Haberdaſhers, or of any other Trade, where hee thinkes he may meete with a Ferret: and though vpon his very firſt courſe, he can finde his game, yet to make his Gallants more hungry, and to thinke hee wearies himſelfe in hunting the more, hee comes to them ſweating, and ſwearing that the City Ferrets are ſo coaped (that is to ſay haue their lippes ſtitched vp cloſe) that he can hardly get them open to ſo great a ſumme as fiue hundred pounds, which they deſire. This Hearbe being chewed downe by the Rabbet-ſuckers, almoſt kills their hearts, and is worſe to them then dabbing on the neckes to Connies. They bid him if hee cannot faſten his teeth vpon Plate, or Cloth, or Silkes, to lay hold on browne Paper, or Tobacco, Bartholomew Babies, Lute-ſtrings, or Hob nayles, or two hundred pounds in Saint Thomas Onions, and the reſt in money the Onions they could get Wenches enough to cry and ſell them by the Rope, and what remaines ſhould ſerue them with Mutton. Vpon this, their Tumbler trots vp and downe againe. And at the laſt lighting on a Citizen that will deale, the names are receiued and deliuered to a Scrinener, who enquiring whether they bee good men and true, that are to paſſe vpon the life and death of fiue hundred pounds, findes that foure of the fiue, are wind-ſhaken, and ready to fall into the Lords handes: marrie the fift man is an Oake, and there's hope that hee cannot be hew-

ed

ed downe in haſt. Vpon him therefore the Citizen builds ſo much as comes to fiue hundred pounds, yet takes in the other foure, to make them ſerue as ſcaffolding, till the frame bee furniſhed, and if then it hold, he cares not greatly who takes them downe. In all haſte are the Bonds ſealed, and the commodities deliuered: And then does the Tumbler fetch his ſecond carrære, and thats this.

The Tumblers hunting Counter.

THe wares which they fiſhed for, being in the hand of the fiue ſharers, do now more trouble their wittes how to turne thoſe wares into ready money, then before they were troubled to turne their credits into wares. The tree being once more to bee ſhaken, they know it muſt loſe fruite, and therefore their Factor muſt barter away their merchandize, tho it bee with loſſe: Abroad into the Citie hee ſailes for that purpoſe, and deales with him that ſold, to buy his owne commodities againe for ready money; Hee will not doe it vnder thirty pound loſſe in the hundred: other Archers bowes are tryed at the ſame marke, but all keepe much about one ſcantling: backe therefore comes their Carrier with this newes, that no man will diſburſe ſo much preſent money vpon any wares whatſoeuer. Daely he met by good Fortune, with one friend (and that friend is himſelfe) who for 10. l. will procure them a Chapman, marry that Chapman will not buy vnleſſe he may haue them at 30. l. loſſe in the hundred: Fuh cry all the Sharers, a Pox on theſe Fore-ſur'd Curmudgions, giue that fellow your friend 10. l. for his paines, and fetch the reſt of the money: within an houre after, it is brought, and powred downe in one heape vpon a Tauerne Table; where making a goodly ſhow, as if it could neuer bee ſpent, all of them conſult what Fee the Tumbler is to haue, for Him in ſo well, and conclude that leſſe then 10. l. they can not giue him, which 10. l. is the firſt told out. Now let vs caſt vp this account: In euery 100. l. is loſt 30. l. which being 5. times 30. l. makes 150 l. that Summe the Ferret puts vp cleere beſides his ouer-prizing the Wares: vnto which 150. l. loſſ, adde 10. l. more, which the Tumbler guls them off, and

after 10. l. which hee hath for his voyage, all which makes 170. l. which deducted from 500. l. there remaineth onely 330. to bee deuided amongst fiue, so that euery one of the partners shall haue but 66. l. yet this they all put vp merrily washing downe their losses with Sacke and sugar, whereof they drinke that night profoundly: nay it hath beene verily reported that one Gentleman of great hopes tooke vp one hundred pound in browne Paper, and sold it for fortie pound, another hundred pound in Hobby-horses and sold them for thirty pound and fifteene pound in Joynts of Mutton and quarters of Lambe ready roasted and sold them for three pound, Hinc Lachrimæ, this was strange but not wonderfull.

How the Warren is spoyled.

WHilest this faire weather lasteth, and that there is any graslle to nibble vpon, These Rabbet-suckers keepe to the Warren, wherein they fatned: but the cold day of repayment approaching they retyre deepe into their caues: so that when the Ferret makes account to haue fiue before him in chase, foure of the fiue lie hidden, and are stolne into other grounds. No maruell then if the Ferret grow fierce and teare open his owne jawes, to sucke blood from him that is left: no maruell that he scratch what wool he can from his backe: the Purseuers that were set, are all taken vp and are carried away. The Warren therefore must be Searched, That must pay for all: ouer that does hee range like a little Lord: Sergeants, Marshalls-men, and Baliffes are sent forth, who lie scouting at euery corner, and with terrible pawes haunt euery walke. In conclusion, the bird that these Hawkes flye after, is seazed vpon, then are his feathers pluck'd, his estate lock't into, then are his wings broken, his lands made ouer to a stranger: then must our young Sonne and heyre pay fiue hundred pound, (for which he neuer had but 66. pound) or else lye in Prison. To keepe himselfe from which, he seales to any bond, enters into any Statute, morgageth any Lord-ship, Does any thing Sayes any thing, yeelds to pay any thing. And these City Stormes (which will wet a man, till he haue neuer a dry thread about him, though he be kept neuer so warme) fall not vpon him once

or

or twise: but being a little way in; hee cares not how deepe he wades, the greater his possessions are, the apter he is to take vp and to be trusted: the more he is trusted, the more hee comes in debt, the farther in debt, the neerer to danger. Thus Gentlemen are wrought vpon, thus are they Cheated, thus are they Ferretted, thus are they Vndone.

Fawlconers.

CHAP. IIII.

Of a new kind of Hawking, teaching how to catch Birds by Bookes.

HVnting and hawking are of kin, and therefore it is fit they should keepe company together: both of them are noble games, and Recreations, honest and healthfull, yet they may be so abused that nothing can be more hurtful. In Hunting the Game is commonly still before you, or i'th hearing within a little compasse: In Hawking, the Game flies farre off, and oftentimes out of sight: A Couple of Rookes therefore (that were birds of the last feather) conspired together to leaue their nest in the City, and to flutter abroad into the Countrey: Vpon two leane hackneies, were these two Doctor Doddipoles horst, Comilly suted, that they might carry about them some badge of a Scholler. Hawking

The Deuils Ranke-rider, that came from the last Citie Hunting, vnderstanding that two such Light-horsemen were gone a Hawking, posts after and ouertakes them. After some ordinary high-way talke, he begins to question of what profession they were? one of them smiling scornefully in his face, as thinking him to be some Gull, (and indeed such fellowes take all men for Gulls, who they thinke to be beneath them in qualitie) told him they were Faulconers. But the For that followed them, seeing no properties, (belonging to a Faulconer) about them, smelt knauery tooke them for a payre of mad rascals, and therefore resolued to see at what these Faulconers would let flye.

How to cast vp the Lure.

AT last on a suddaine sayes one of them to him, Sir, wee haue Sprung a Partridge, and so fare you well: which words came stammering out with the hafte that they made, The first Note.

for presently the two Forragers of the Countrie, were vpon the Spurre: Plutoes Post seeing this, stood still to watch them, and at length saw them in maine gallop make toward a goodly faire place, where either some Knight, or some great Gentleman kept; and this goodly house belike was the Partridge which those Faulconers had sprung. Hee being loath to loose his share in this Hawking, and hauing power to transforme himselfe as he listed, came thither alsoone as they, but beheld all (which they did) inuisible. They both like two Knights Errant, alighted at the Gate, knocked, and were let in: The one walkes the Hackneys in an outward Court, as if hee had beene but Squire to Sir Dagonet. The other (as boldly as Saint George, when he dard the Dragon at his very Den) marcheth vndauntedly vp to the Hall, where looking ouer those poore creatures of the house, that were but the base Blew-coates (or Aquila non capit Muscas) what should a Faulconer meddle with flies? he onely salutes him that in his eye seemes to bee a Gentleman-like fellow: Of him he askes for his good Knight, or so, and sayes that he is a Gentleman come from London on a businesse, which he must deliuer to his owne Worthipfull Eare. Vp the staires does braue Mount Dragon ascend: the Knight and he encounter, and with this staffe does he valiantly charge vpon him.

How the Bird is Caught.

SIr, I am a poore Scholler, and the report of your vertues hath drawne me hither, ventrously bold to fire your worthy name as a Patronage to a poore short discourse, which here I dedicate (out of my lone) to your Noble and eternall Memory: this speech he vtters barely.

The Hawking Pamphleter is then bid to put on, whilest his Miscelaine Mæcenas, opens a Booke fayrely apparelld in Vellom, with gilt fillits, and foure-penny silke ribbon at least, like little streamers on the top of a March-pane Castle, hanging dangling by at the foure corners: the title being superficially surueid in the nert leafe he sees that the Author hee, hath made him one of his Gossips, for the Booke carries his Worships name, and vnder it stands and Epistle iust the length of a Hench-mans grace before dinner, which is long enough for

any

any Booke in conſcience, vnleſſe the writer be vnreaſonable.

The Knight being told before-hand, that this little Sunne-beame of Phœbus (ſhining thus briſkely in print) hath his mite or Atomy waiting vpon him in the outward Court, thankes him for his loue and labor, and conſidering with himſelfe, what coſt he hath beene at, and how farre he hath ridden to come to him, he knowes that Patrons and Godfathers, are to pay ſcot and lot alike, and therefore to cherriſh his young and tender Muſe, he giues him foure or fiue Angels, inuiting him either to ſtay breakefaſt, or if the Sun-dyall of the houſe-points towards eleuen, then to tarry dinner.

How the bird is dreſt.

BVt the fiſh being caught (for which our Heliconian Angler threw out his lines) with thankes, and legges, and kiſſing his owne hand, he parts. No ſooner is he horſt, but his Oſtler (who all this while walked the Jades, and trauells vp and downe with him (like an vnderſeruing player for halfe a ſhare) aſkes this queſtion, Strawes or not? Strawes cryes the whole ſharer and a halfe, away then replyes the firſt flie to our neſt: this neſt is neuer in the ſame towne, but commonly a mile or two off, and it is nothing elſe but the next Tauerne they come to. But the Village into which they rode beeing not able to maintaine an Iuybuſh, an Alehouſe is their Inne: where aduancing themſelues into the fairеſt chamber, and beſpeaking the beſt cheere in the Towne for Dinner, downe they ſit, and ſhare before they ſpeake of any thing elſe: That done, he that ventures vpon all he meetes, and diſcharges the paper Bullets, (for to tell truth, the other ſerues but as a ſigne and is merely nobody) begins to diſcourſe, how hee carried himſelfe in the action, how he was encountred: how he ſtood to his tackling, and how well he came off: he cals the Knight a Noble fellow, yet they both ſhrug and laugh, and ſweare they are glad they haue Gul'd him. How birds are dreſt after they be caught.

How arrowes muſt they ſhoote of the ſame length that this firſt was of, and therefore there is a Trunke full of Trinkets, that is to ſay, their budget of Bookes is opened againe, to ſee what leafe they are to turne ouer next, which whileſt they are doing, the Ghoſt that all this ſpace haunted them,

and

and heard what they sayd, having excellent skill in the blacke Art, that is to say, in picking of locks, makes the doore suddenly flye open (which they had closely shut. At his strange entrance they being somewhat agast, began to shuffle away their bookes, but hee knowing what cards they plaid withall, offered to cut, and turn'd vp two knaues by this tricke: my Masters (quoth he) I know where you haue bin, I know what you haue done, I know what you meane to doe, I see now you are Faulconers indeed, but by the (and then he swore a damnable oath) vnlesse you teach me to shoote in this Birding-piece, I will rayse the Village, send for the Knight whom you boast you haue gul'd and so disgrace you, for your money I care not.

The two Free-booters seeing themselues smoaked, told their third Brother, he seemed to be a gentleman and a brave companion, they prayed him therefore to sit downe with silence, and sithence dinner was not yet ready, he should heare all.

This new kind of Hawking (quoth one of them) which you see vs vse can afford no name vnlesse fiue be at it, viz.

1. He that casts vp the Lure, is called the Faulconer.
2. The Lure that is cast vp, is an idle Pamphlet.
3. The Tercel-Gentle, that comes to the Lure, is some Knight or some Gentleman of like quality.
4. The Bird that is preyed vpon, is Money.
5. He that walkes the horses, and hunts dry-foot is called a Mongrell.

The Faulconer and his Spaniel.

THe Faulconer hauing scraped together certaine small parings of wit, he first cuts them handsomely in pretty pieces, and of those pieces does he patch vp a booke. This booke hee prints at his owne charge, the Mongrel running vp and downe to looke to the workemen, and bearing likewise some part of the cost, (for which he enters vpon this halfe share.) When it is fully finished, the Faulconer and his Mongrell, (or it may bee two Faulconers ioyne in one,) but howsoeuer, it is by them deuised in what shire in England it is best to forrage next: that being set downe, the Falconers decke either with a Herauld for a note of all the Knights and Gentlemens names of worth that dwell in that circuite, which they meane to ride, or els by

inquiry

inquiry, get the chiefest of them, printing off so many Epistles as they haue names, the Epistles Dedicatory being all one, and vary in nothing but in the Titles of their Patrons.

Hauing thus furnished themselues, and packed vp their wares away they trudge, like Tinkers, with a Budget at one of their backes, or it may bee the circle they meane to coniure in, shall not be out of London, especially if it be Terme time, or when a Parliament is holden, (for then they haue choise of sweete meates to feede vpon.) If a Gentleman seeing one of these bookes Dedicated onely to his name, suspect it to bee a bastard, that hath more Fathers besides himselfe, and to try that, does deferre the Presenter for a day or two, sending in the meane time (as some haue done) into Paules Churchyard amongst the Stationers, to inquire if any such worke be come forth, and if they cannot tell, then to step to the Printers: Yet haue the Faulconers a tricks to goe beyond such Hawkes too for all they flye so hie, and that is this: The books ly all at the Printers, but not one line of an Epistle to any of them (those bug-beares lurke in Tenebris) if then the Spy that is sent by his Master, aske why they haue no Dedications to them: Monsieur Printer tells him, the Author would not venture to adde any to them all, (sauing onely to that which was giuen to his Master) vntill it was knowne whether he would accept of it or no. Strange hawking

This satisfies the Patron, this fetches money from him, and this Cozens fiue hundred besides. Nay, there be other Bird-catchers, that vse stranger quaile-pipes: you shall haue fellowes, foure or fiue in a Countrey, that buying vp any olde Booke, (especially a Sermon, or any other matter of Diuinitie) that lyes for waste-paper, and is cleane forgotten, and a new printed Epistle to it & with an Alphabet of letters which they carry about them, being able to print any mans name (for a Dedication) on the sudden trauell vp and downe most Shires in England, and liue by this Hawking.

Are wee not excellent Faulconers now (quoth three halfe shares?) excellent villaines cryed the Diuels Deputie: by this the meate (for dinner came smoaking in) vpon which they fell

 most

most tyrannically, yet (for manners sake) offering first, to the Baliffe of Belzebub the vpper end of the table, but he fearing they would make a Hawke or a Buzzard of him too, and report they had ridden him like an Asse, as they had done others, out a doores he flung with a vengeance as he came.

O sacred Learning! why doest thou suffer thy seuen leaued Tree, to be plucked by barbarous and most vnhallowed hands? Why is thy beautifull Maiden-body polluted like a strumpets, and prostituted to beastly and slauish Ignorance? O you Base-broode, that make the Muses Harlots, yet say they are your Mothers? You Theeues of Wit, Cheaters of Art, Traytors of schooles of Learning, murderers of Schollers: More worthy you are, to vndergoe the Romane Furca, like flaues, & to be branded i'th fore-head deeper then they that forge Testaments to vndoe Orphants: Such doe but rob children of goods that may bee lost: but you rob Schollers of their fame, which is deerer then life. You are not worth an Inuectiue, not worthy to haue your names droppe out of a deseruing pen, you shall onely bee executed in Picture, (as they vse to handle Malefactors in France) and the picture (though it were drawne to be hung vp in another place) shall leaue you impudently arrogant to your selues, and ignominiously ridiculous to after ages: in these colours are you drawne.

The true Picture of these Faulconers.

---There be Fellowes
Of course and common blood; Mechanicke knaues,
Whose wits lye deeper buried then in graues:
And indeed smell more earthy, whose creation
Was but to giue a Boote or Shoe good fashion.
Yet these (throwing by the Apron and the Awle)
Being drunke with their owne wit, cast vp their gall
Onely of Inke: and in patchd, beggerly Rimes,
(As full of fowle corruption, as the Times)
From towne to towne they strowle, in soule as poore,
As th'are in cloathes: yet these at euery doore,
Their labours Dedicate. But (as at Faires)
Like Pedlers they shew still one sort of wares
Vnto all commers (with some filde oration)

And

And thus to giue bookes now's an occupation.
One Booke hath ſeuen-ſcore Patrons; thus deſert
Is cheated of her due; thus noble art
Giues Ignorance (that common ſtrumpet) place
Thus the true Scholliers name growes cheape and baſe, &c.

Of Iacks of the Clock-houſe

CHAP. V.

A new and cunning drawing of money from Gentlemen.

THere is another Fraternitie of wandring Pilgrims, who merrily call themſelues, Iacks of the Clock-houſe, and are very neere allied to the Faulconers, that went a Hawking before. The Clarke of Erebus ſet downe their names too in his Tables, with certaine briefe notes of their practiſes: and theſe they are.

The Iacke of a Clock-houſe goes vpon Screwes, and his Office is to doe nothing but ſtrike: ſo does this noyſe, (for they walke vp and downe like Fidlers) trauaile with Motions, and whatſoeuer their Motions get them is called ſtriking.

Thoſe Motions are certaine Collections, or witty Inuentions, ſometimes of one thing, and then of another. And theſe are fayrely written and ingroſſed in Vellum, Parchment, or Royall paper, richly adorned with compartiments, and ſet out with letters both in gold, and in various colours.

This labor being taken, the Maſter of the Motion hearkens where ſuch a Nobleman, ſuch a Lord, or ſuch a Knight lies, that is liberall: hauing found one to his liking, The Motion (with his Patrons name fairely texed out, in manner of a Dedication,) is preſented before him: he receiues it, and thinking it to bee a worke onely vndertaken for his ſake, is bounteous to the giuer, eſteeming him a Scholler, and knowing that not without great trauaile, hee hath drawne ſo many little ſtraggling ſtreames into ſo faire and ſmooth a Riuer: whereas the worke is the labour of ſome other (coppied out by ſtealth) by an impudent ignorant fellow, that runnes vp and downe with the Tranſcripts, and euery Ale-houſe may haue one of them

hanging in the baſeſt drinking roome) if they will bee at the charges of writing it out. Thus the liberalitie of a Nobleman, or of a Gentleman is abuſed: thus learning is brought into ſcorne and contempt: Thus men are cheated of their bounty, giuing much for that (out of their free minds) which is common abroad, and put away for baſe prices. Thus villany ſometimes walkes alone, as if it were giuen to Melancholly, and ſometimes knaues tie themſelues in a knot, becauſe they may be more merry, as by a mad ſort of Comrades whom I ſee leaping into the Saddle, anon it will appeare.

Ranke-Riders.

CHAP. VI.

The manner of Cozening Inne-keepers, Poſt-maſters, and Hackney-men.

THere is a troope of Horſemen, that runne vp and downe the whole Kingdome, they are euer in a gallop, their buſineſſe is weighty, their iourneyes many, their expences great, their Iunes euery where, their lands no where: they haue onely a certaine Free-hold called Tyborne, (ſcituate neere London, and many a faire paire of Gallowes in other Countryes beſides,) vpon which they liue very poorely, till they dye, and dye for the moſt part wickedly, becauſe their liues are villanous and deſperate. But what race ſoeuer they run, there they end it, there they ſet vp their reſt, there is their laſt baite whither ſoeuer their iourney lyes. And theſe horſemen haue nother names but Ranke-Riders.

To furniſh whom forth for any iourney, they muſt haue Riding ſuits cut out of theſe foure peeces.

1. The Inne-keeper, or Hackney-man of whom they haue horſes, is called A Colt.

2. He that neuer alights from a rich Farmer or Country Gentleman, till he haue drawne money from him, is called The Snaffle.

3. The money ſo gotten, is the Ring.

4. He that feeds them with mony is called, The Prouander.

These Ranke-riders (like Butchers to Rumford market) seldome go without fiue or seuen in a company, and these Carreeres they fetch. Their purses beeing warmely lined with some purchase gotten before, and they themselues well brted and spur'd, and in reasonable good outsides, arriue at the fairest Inne they can chuse, either in Westminster, the Strand, the Citie or the Suburbs.

The maner of bridling a colt.

Two of them who haue clothes of purpose to fit the play, carrying the shew of Gentlemen, the other act their parts in blew coats, as they were their Seruing-men, though indeed they bee all fellowes. They enter all durtied or dusted (according as it shall please the high-way to vse them) and the first bridle they put into the colts mouth (that is to say, the Inne-keepers) is at their comming in to aske aloud if the footeman bee gone backe with the horses: tis answered, yes. Here the Ranke-Riders lye three or foure dayes, spending moderately enough, yet abating not a peny of any reckoning, to shew of what house they come: in which space their counterfeit followers learne what Countrey-man the master of the house is, where the Ostlers and Chamberlaines were borne, and what other Country Gentlemen are guests to the Inne: which lessons being perfectly gotten by heart, they fall into study with the generall rules of their knauery: and those are first to giue out, that their Master is a Gentleman of such and such meanes, in such a shire, which shall be sure to stand farre enough from those places (where any of the house or of other guests were borne) that he is come to dispose so many hundred pounds vpon land which he hath sold, and that he meanes to Inne there some quarter of a yeere at least.

This Braule money passing for currant through the house, hee is more obserued and better attended, is worshipped at euery word, and the easier to breake and bridle the colt, his Worship will not sit downe to Dinner or Supper till the Master of the house bee placed at the vpper end of the boord by him.

In the middle of Supper, or else very early in the following morning, comes in a counterfeit footeman, sweatingly deliuering a message, that such a Knight hath sent for

the head-Maſter of theſe Ranke-riders, & that he muſt be with him by ſuch an houre, the iourney being not aboue twelue or fourteene miles. Vpon delinery of this meſſage (from ſo deare and noble a friend) he ſweares and chafes, becauſe all his horſes are out of towne, curſeth the ſending of them back, offers any money to haue himſelfe, his couzen with him, and his men but reaſonably horſt. Mine hoſt being a credulous Aſſe, ſuffers them all to get vp vpon him, for hee prouides them horſes, either of his owne (thinking his Gueſt to be a man of great account, and being loth to looſe him, becauſe hee ſpends well) or elſe ſends out to hire them of his neighbours, paſſing his word for their ſoone-comming within a day or two. Vp they get and away gallop our ranke-riders, as farre as the poore Jades can carry them.

The two dayes beeing ambled out of the World, and perhaps three more after them, yet neither a ſupply of Horſe-men or Footemen, (as was promiſed) to be ſet eye vpon. The lamentable Inne-keeper (or hackney-man, if hee chance to bee Sadled for this Journey too) loſe their Colts teeth, and finde that they are made old arrant Jades: Search then runs vp and downe like a Conſtable halfe out of his wits (vpon a Shrone-tueſday) and hue and cry followes after, ſome twelue or foureteene miles off, (round about London) which was the fartheſt of their iourney as they gyue out. But (Alas!) the horſes are at paſture foureſcore or a hundred miles from their olde mangers: they were ſold at ſome blinde drunken chriſtiſh faire, (there being enow of them in company to ſaue themſelues, by their Toll-booke,) the Horſe-men caſt off their blew coats, and cry, All fellowes: the money is ſpent vpon Wine, vpon Whores, vpon Fidlers, vpon Fooles, (by whom they will loſe nothing) and the Tyde being at an ebbe, they are as ready to practiſe their ſkill in Horſeman-ſhippe to bring Oxen to the Saddle in that Towne, and to make Dogs run a race of three ſcore or a hundred miles off from that place, as before they did from London.

Running

Running at the Ring.

THus, so long as Horse-flesh can make them fat, they neuer leaue feeding. But when they haue beaten so many high-wayes in seuerall Countries, that they feare to bee euertaken by Tracers, then (like Souldiours comming from a Breach) they march faire and softly on foote, lying in Garrison, as it were, close in some out-townes, till the foule Rumor of their Villanies (like a stormy durty Winter) be blowne ouer: In which time of lacking in the thell, they are not idle neither, but like snailes, they venter abroad, though the Law hath threatned to raine down neuer so much punishment vpon them: and what do they? they are not Bees to liue by their own painfull labors, but Drones that must eate vp the sweetnesse, and be fed with the earnings of others: This therfore is their worke. They carelessely enquire what Gentleman of worth, or what rich Farmers dwell within fiue, or sixe, or seuen miles of the Fort where they are insconced, (which they may doe without suspition) & hauing got their names, they single out themselues in a morning, and each man takes a seuerall path to himselfe: one goes East, one West, one North, and the other South: walking either in boates with wands in their hands, or otherwise, for it is al to one purpose. And note this by the way, that when they trauell thus on foot, they are no more called Ranke-riders, but Scrowlers, a proper name giuen to Country Players, that (without Socks) trot from town to towne vpon the bare hoofe.

Being arriued at the gate where the Gentleman or Farmer dwelleth, hee boldly knockes, inquiring for him by name and steps in to speake with him: the seruant seeing a fashionable person, tells his Master there is a Gentleman desires to speak with him: the Master comes and salutes him, but eying him well, sayes he does not know him: No Sir, replies the other (with a face bold enough) it may be so, but I pray you Sir, will you walke a turne or two in your Orchard or Garden, I would there conferre: Hauing got him thether, to this tune he plaies vpon him.

How the Snaffle is put on.

SIr, I am a Gentleman, borne to better meanes then my present fortunes doe allow mee: I serued in the field, and had

had command there. But long peace (you know Sir) is the Canker that eates vp Souldiers, and so it hath me. I lye here not farre off in the Countrey, at mine Inne, where staying vpon the dispatch of some businesse, I am indebted to the house in monies, so that I cannot with the credit of a Gentleman leaue the house till I haue payd them. Make me Sir, so much beholden to your loue, as to lend me forty or fifty shillings to beare my horse and my selfe to London, from whence within a day or two, I shall send you many thankes, with a faithfull repaiment of your curtesie.

The honest Gentleman, or the good natur'd Farmer beholding a personable man, fashionably attired, and not carrying in outward colours, the face of a cogging knaue, giues credit to his words, are sorry that they are not at this present time so well furnished as they could wish, but if a matter of twenty shillings can stead him, he shall command it, because it were pitty any honest Gentleman should for so small a matter miscarry. Happily they meete with some Chap-men that giue their owne asking: but howsoeuer, all is fish that comes to nett, they are the most conscionable market folkes that euer rode betweene two paniers, for from forty they will fall to twenty, from twenty to tenne, from tenne to fiue: nay these Mountibankes are so base, that they are not ashamed to take two shillings of a plaine Husbandman, and sometimes sixe pence (which the other giues simply and honestly) of whom they demanded a whole fifteene.

In this manner doe they digge siluer out of mens purses all the day, and at night meete together at the appointed Randeuoz, where all these Snaffles are loosed to their full length, the Rings which that day they haue made, are worne. The Prouander is praised or dispraised, as they finde it in goodnesse, but it goes downe all, whilest they laugh at all.

And thus does a Common-wealth bring vp children, that care not how they discredit her, or vndoe her: who would imagine that Birds so fatre in shew, and so sweete in voyce, should be so dangerous in condition? but Rauens thinke carryon the daintiest meate, and villaines esteeme most of that money which is purchast by basenesse.

The

The Vnder-sheriffe for the County of Cacodemon, knowing into what arrerages these Ranke-riders were runne for horse-flesh to his master, (of whom he farmed the office) sent out his writs to attach them, and so narrowly pursued them, that for al they were well horst, some he sent post to the gallows, and the rest to seuerall Jayles: After which, making all the haste hee possibly could to get to London againe, he was way layd by an army of a strong and new-found people.

Of Moone-men.

CHAP. VII.

A discouery of a strange wild people very dangerous to Townes and Country Villages.

A Moone-man, signifies in English a mad-man, because the Moone hath greatest domination (aboue any other Planet) ouer the bodies of Franticke persons. But these Moone-men (whose Images are now to be carued) are neither absolutely mad, nor yet perfectly in their wits. Their name they borrow from the Moone, because as the Moone is neuer in one shape two nights together, but wanders vp and downe Heauen, like an Anticke, so these changeable-stuffe-companions neuer tarry one day in a place, but are the only, and the onely base Runnagates vpon earth. And as in the Moone there is a man, that neuer stirres without a bush of thornes at his backe, so these Moone-men lie vnder bushes, and are indeede no better then Hedge-creepers.

They are a people more scattered then Iewes, and more hated: beggerly in apparell, barbarous in condition, beastly in behauiour, and bloody if they méete aduantage. A man that sees them would sweare they had all the yellow Jaundies, or that they were Tawny Moores Bastards, for no red-Baker man carries a face of a more filthy complexion, yet are they not borne so, neither hath the Sunne burnt them so, but they are painted so, yet they are not good Painters neither: for they do not make faces, but marre faces. By a by-name they are called Gipsies, thy call themselues Egyptians, others in mockery call them Moone-men.

If they be Egyptians, sure I am they neuer descended from

the Tribes of any of those people that came out of the Land of Egypt: Ptolomy (King of the Egyptians) I warrant neuer called them his subiects: no nor Pharao before him. Looke what difference there is betweene a Ciuill Citizen of Dublin, and a wild Irish Kerne, so much difference there is betweene one of these counterfeit Egyptians, and a true English begger. An English Rogue is full of the same liuery.

His order in marching on foot or ferring vpon horie.

They are commonly an Army about foure-score strong, yet they neuer march with all their bags and baggages together, but (like Bote-halers) they forrage vp and downe countries, 4. 5. or 6. in a company. As the Switzer has his wench and his Cocke with him when he goes to the warres, so these vagabonds haue their harlots with a number of little children following at their heeles: which yong brood of beggers, are sometimes carried (like so many greene geese aliue to a market) in paires of paniers, or in dossers like fresh-fish from Rye that comes on horsebacke, (if they be but infants) But if they can straddle once, then as well the Rogues, as the he Rogues are horst, seuen or eight vpon one jade, strongly pineond, and strangely tyed together.

One Shire alone and no more is sure still at one time, to haue these Egyptian lice swarming within it, for like flockes of wild-geese, they will euermore flye one after another: let them bee scattered worse then the quarters of a Traytor are after hee's hang'd drawne and quartered, yet they haue a tricke (like water cut with a sword) to come together instantly and easily againe: and this is their policy, which way soeuer the foremost rankes lead, they sticke vp small boughes in seuerall places, to euery village wher they passe, which serue as ensignes to waite on the rest.

His furniture.

Their apparell is old, and phantastick, though it bee neuer so full of rents; the men weare Scarfes of Tallico, or any other base stuffe, hanging their bodies like Morris-dancers, with bells, and other Toyes, to intice the Country people to flocke about them, and to wonder at their fooleries, or rather Knacke knaueries. The women as ridiculously attire themselues, and (like one that playes the Rogue on a Stage) weare rags, and patched filthy mantles vpper-

most

moſt, when the vnder garments are handſome and in faſhion.

The battailes theſe Out-lawes make, are many and very bl ody. Whoſoeuer falls into their hands neuer eſcapes aliue, and ſo cruell they are in theſe murthers, that nothing can ſatiſfie them but the very heart blood of thoſe whom they kill. And who are they (thinke you) that thus goe to the pot? Alas! Innocent Lambs, Sheepe, Calues, Pigges &c. Poultry-ware are more churliſhly handled by them, then poore priſoners are by keepers in the Counter i'th Poultry. A goose comming amongſt them, learnes to bee wiſe, that he neuer will be Goose any more. The bloody Tragedies of all theſe, are only acted by the women, who carrying long knues or Sheeanes vnder their mantles, doe thus play their parts: The Stage is ſome large Heath or a Firre-buſh Common, farre from any houſes: Vpon which, cauſing themſelues into a Ring, they incloſe the murdered, till the maſſacre be finiſhed. If any paſſenger come by, and wondring to ſee ſuch a conuuring circle kept by Hell-hounds, and demaund what ſpirits they raiſe there: one of the Murderers reps to him, poyſons him with ſweete words, and ſhifts him off, with this lye, that one of the women is falne in labour: but if any mad Hamlet hearing this, ſmells villanie, and ruſh in by violence to ſee what the tawny Diuels are doing, then they excuſe the fact, lay the blame on thoſe that are actors, and perhaps (if they ſee no remedy) deliuer them to an officer, to be had to punihment: but by the way a reſcue is ſurely layd and very valiantly (though very villanouſly) doe they fetch them off and guard them.

The Cabbines where theſe Land-pyrats lodge in the night, are the Out-barnes of Farmers and Huſbandmen (in ſome poore Village or other) who dare not deny them, for feare they ſhould ere morning haue their thatched houſes burning about their eares: in theſe Barnes, are both their Cooke-roomes, their ſupping Parlors, and their Bed-chambers: for there they dreſſe after a beaſtly manner, whatſoeuer they purchaſt after a theeuiſh faſhion: ſometimes they eate Veniſon, and haue Gray-hounds that kill it for them, but if they had not, they are Hounds themſelues, and are damnable Hunters after fleſh: Which appeares by their vgly faced queanes that

follow them, with whom in these Barnes they lye, as Swine dos together in Hogsties.

His qualities whilest he lies intrenched.

These Barnes are the beds of Incests, Whoredomes, Adulteries, and of all other black and deadly damned Impieties; here growes the cursed Tree of Bastardy, that is so fruitfull: here are written the Bookes of all Blasphemies, Swearings and Curses, that are so dreadfull to be read. Yet the simple Country people will come running out of their houses to gaze upon them, whilest in the meane time one steales into the next Roome, and brings away whatsoeuer he can lay hold on. Upon dayes of pastime and liberty, they spread themselues in small companies amongst the Villages: and when yong maides and batchellers (yea sometimes old doting fooles, that should bee beaten to this world of villanies, and forewarne others) doe flocke about them, they then professe skill in Palmestry, and (forsooth) can tell Fortunes, which for the most part are infallibly true, by reason that they worke upon rules which are grounded upon certaintie: for one of them will tell you that you shall shortly haue some euill lucke fall upon you, and within halfe an heure after you shall haue your pocket pick'd, or your purse cut.

What pieces of desperate fortune he ventures upon.

These are those Egyptian Grashoppers that eate up the fruites of the earth, and destroy the poore corne fields: to sweepe these swarmes out of this Kingdome, there are no other meanes but the sharpenesse of the most infamous and basest kinds of punishment. For if the vgly body of this Monster bee suffered to grow and fatten it selfe with mischiefes and disorder, it will haue a necke so Sinewy and so Brawny, that the arme of the Law will haue much adoe to strike off the Head, sithence euery day the members of it increase, and it gathers new ioynts and new forces, by Priggers, Anglers, Chearers, Morts, Yeomens Daughters (that haue taken some by-blowes, and to auoyde shame, fall into their sinnes) and other Seruants, both men and maydes, that haue beene pilferers, with all the rest of that Damned Regiment, marching together in the first Army of the Bel-man, who running away from their owne colours (which are bad enough) serue vnder these, being the worst. Luciters Lansprizado that stood aloofe to behold the Musterings of these Hell-hounds took

delight

delight to see them double their Fyles so nimbly, but held it no policy to come neere them (for the Diuell himselfe durst scarce haue done that.) Away therefore he gallops, knowing that at one time or other, they would all come to fetch their pay where it was due.

The Infection of the Suburbs,

CHAP. VIII.

THe Infernall Promoter being wearied with riding vp and downe the Countrey, was glad when he had gotten the City ouer his head, but the Citie beeing not able to hold him within the freedome, because he was a forreiner, the gates were set wide open for him to passe through, and into the Suburbs he went. And what saw he there?

He saw the doores of notorious Carted Bawdes, (like Hell gates) stand night and day wide open, with a paire of Harlots in Taffata Gownes (like two painted posts) garnishing out those doores, being better to the house then a double signe: when the doore of a poore Artificer (if his child had dyed but with one Token of death about him) was close ram'd vp and Guarded, for feare others should haue beene infected: Yet the Plague that a whore-house layes vpon the Citie is worse, yet is laughed at: if not laughed at, yet not looked into, or if looked into, Winked at.

The Tradesman hauing his house locked vp, looseth his customers, is put from worke and vndone: whilest the meane time the Strumpet is set on worke and maintained (perhaps) by those that vndoe the other: giue thanks O wide mouth'd Hell! laugh Lucifer at this dance for ioy all you Deuils.

Belzebub keepes the Register booke, of all the Bawdes, Panders and Curtizans: and he knowes that these Suburb-sinners haue no lands to liue vpon but their legges: euery Gentize passing by them, can say, there is a Whore: Without putting them to their booke they will sweare so much themselues: if so, are not Constables Church-wardens, Bayliffes, Beadles, and other Officers, Pillars and pillowes to all the villanies, that are by these committed? Are they not parcell-Bawds to winke

at ſuch damnable abuſes, conſidering they haue whippes in their owne hands, and may draw blood if they pleaſe? Is not the Landlord of ſuch rents the Grand Baude? and the doore-keeping miſtreſſe of ſuch a houſe of ſinne, but his bodier Baud? ſithence hee takes twenty pounds rent euery yeare for a vaulting ſchoole (which from no Artificer liuing by the hardneſſe of the hand could bee worth fiue pound.) And that twenty pound rent, hee knewes muſt bee preſt out of petticoates: his money ſmels of ſinne, the very ſiluer lookes pale, becauſe it was earned by luſt.

How happy therefore were Cities if they had no Suburbs, ſithence they ſerue but as caues, where monſters are bred vp to deuoure the Cities themſelues? Would the Diuell hire a villaine to ſpill blood? there he ſhall finde him. One to blaſpheme? there he hath choice. A Pander that would court a Patron at her prayers? he is there. A Cheater that would turne his owne father a begging? he is there too. A harlot that would murder her new borne Infant? She lies in there.

What a wretched wombe hath a ſtrumpet, which being (for the moſt part) barren of Children, is notwithſtanding the only Bed that breeds vp theſe Serpents? vpon that one ſtalke grow all theſe miſchiefes, Shee is the Cockatrice that hatcheth all theſe Egs of euils. When the Deuill takes the Anatomy of all damnable ſins, he looks only vpon her body. When ſhe dies, he ſits as her Coroner. When her ſoule comes to hell, all ſhun that there, as they flye from a body ſtrucke with the plague. Here ſhe hath her doore-keeper, and ſhe her ſelfe is the Deuils chamber-maid. And yet for all this that ſhee's ſo dangerous & deteſtable, when ſhe hath croak'd like a Rauen on the Eues, then comes ſhe into the houſe like a Doue. When her villanies (like the mote about a Caſtle) are ranke and thicke, & muddy with ſtanding long together, then (to purge her ſelfe) is ſhe driuen out of the Suburbs (as though her corruption were there left behind her) and (as a cleare ſtreame) is let into the City.

What armour a harlot weares comming out of the Suburbs to beſiege the City within the wals.

VPon what perch then does ſhe ſit: what part playes ſhee then? only the Puritane. If before ſhe ruffled in ſilkes,

now

now she is more ciuily attired then a Midwife. If before shee swaggered in Tauernes, now with the Snaile, she stirreth not out of doores. And where must her lodging be taken vp, but in the house of some Citizen, whose knowne reputation she borrowes (or rather steales,) putting it on as a cloake to couer her deformities. Yet euen in that, hath she an Art too, for she shall be of such a profession, that al commers may enter, without the danger of any eyes to watch them. As for example, she will lie at some Scriueners house, and so vnder the colour of comming to haue a Bond made, she her selfe may write *Nouerint vniuersi*. And though the Law threaten to hit her neuer so often, yet hath she subtile defences to ward off the blowes. For, if Gallants haunt the house, then spreds she these colours: shee is a Captaines, or a Lieutenants wife in the Low-countries, and they come with Letters, from the souldier her husband. If Marchants resort to her, then hoists she vp these sailes, she is wife to the Master of a Ship, & they bring newes that her husband put in at the Straites, or at Venice, at Aleppo, Alexandria, or Scanderoon, &c. If Fish-mungers keepers come to her, with what doe you lacke in their mouthes, then shee takes vp such and such commodities, to send them to Rie, to Bristow, to Yorke, &c. where her husband dwells. But if the streame of her fortunes runne low, and that none but Apron-men launch forth there, then keepes she a politike sempsters shop or shee starches them.

Perhaps shee is so politicke, that none shall bee noted to board her: if so, then she sayles vpon these points of the Compasse, so soone as euer shee is rigd, and all her furniture on, forth shee launcheth into those streetes that are most frequented: where the first man that she mates of her acquaintance, shall (without much pulling) get her into a Tauerne: out of him she kisses a breakefast, and then leaues him: the next she mates, does vpon as easie pullies, drawe her to a Tauerne againe, out of him shee cogs a dinner, and then leaues him: the third man Squires her to a play, which being ended, and the Wine offered and taken (for she's no Recusant, to refuse any thing) him she leaues too; and being set vpon by a fourth,

him

him thee answeres at his owne weapon, sups with him, and drinkes Vpsie Freeze, till the clocke striking Twelue, and the Drawers being drowzy, away they march arme in arme, being at euery foot-step fearefull to be set vpon by the Band of Halberdiers, that lye scowting in rug-gownes to cut off such midnight stragglers. But the word being giuen, and who goes there, with come before the Constable, being shot at them, they baile presently and come, she taking vpon her to answere all the Bilmen and their Leader. Betweene whom and her, suppose you heare this sleepy Dialogue, where haue you bin so late? at supper forsooth with my Vncle here, (if he be well bearded) or with my brother (if the haire be but budding forth) and he is bringing me home. Are you married? yes forsooth: what is your husband? such a Noble-mans man, or such a Iustices Clark: (And then names some Alderman of London, to whom shee perswades her selfe, one or other of the bench of browne billes are beholding: where lye you? At such a mans house: *Sic tenues euanescit in Auras:* And thus by stopping the Constables mouth with Sugar plummes (that is to say,) whilest she poysons him with sweete words, the Punke vanisheth. O Lanthorne and Candle-light, how art thou made a blind Asse? because thou hast but one eye to see withall: Bee not so guld, bea not so dull in vnderstanding: doe thou but follow alwaie those two tame Pigeons, and thou shalt find, that her new Vncle lyes by it all that night, to make his kinswoman one of mine Aunts: or if shee be not in trauell all night, they spend some halfe an houre together: but what do they? marry they do that which the Constable should haue done for them both in the Kretes, that is to say, commit, commit.

You Guardians ouer so great a Princesse as the eldest daughter to King Brutus: you twice twelue Fathers and Gouernors ouer the Noblest Citie, why are you so carefull to plant trees to beautifie your outward walkes, yet suffer the goodliest garden (within) to bee ouer-runne with stinking weedes: You are the pruning kniues that should loppe off such idle, such vnprofitable, and such destroying Branches from the Vine: The beames of your authority should purge the ayre of such infection: your breath of Iustice should scatter those foggy Vapours,

and

and driue them out of your gates, as chaffe tossed abroad by the winds.

But stay, is your walking spirit become an Orator to perswade? no: but the Bellman of London, with whom, hee met in this perambulation of his and to whom he betraied himselfe, and opened his very bosome, (as hereafter you shall heare,) is bold to take vpon him the speakers office.

Of Ginglers.

CHAP. IX.

Of the knauery of Horse-coursers in Smithfield discouered.

AT the end of fierce battailes, the onely Randeuouz for lame souldiers to retire vnto, is an Hospitall: and at the end of a long Progresse, the onely ground for a tyred Jade to runne in, is some blind Countrey faire, where hee may be sure to be sold. To these markets of vnwholesome Horse-flesh, (like so many Kites to feede vpon Carrion) doe all the horse-coursers (that roost about the Citie) flie one after another. And whereas in buying all other commodities, men striue to haue the best, how great soeuer the price be, onely the Horse-courser is of a baser minde, for the worst Horse-flesh (so it be cheape) does best goe downe with him. Hee cares for nothing but a faire outside, and a handsome shape (like those that hire Whores,) though there be an hundred diseases within: he (as the other) ventures vpon them all.

The first lesson therefore that a Horse-courser takes out, when hee comes to one of these markets, is to make choice of such Nags, Geldings, or Mares, especially, as are fat, faire, and well fauord to the eye: and because men delight to behold beautifull colours, are more delicate (euen in beasts) then others are he will so nære as he can, bargaine for those horses that haue the daintiest complexion: as the Milke white, the Gray, the Dapple Gray, the Cole blake with his proper marks (as the white starre in the fore-head, the white hæle, &c) or the bright Bay, with the like proper markes also. And

the goodlier proportion the beast carries, or the fairer marks or colour that he beares, are, or ought to be watch-words, as it were to him that afterwards buyes him of the Horse-courser, that hee be not couzened with an ouer-price for a bad penny-worth, because such horses (belonging for the most part to Gentlemen) or seldome or neuer sold away, but vpon some foule qualitie, or some incurable disease, which the beast is falne into. The best colours are therefore the best cloakes to hide those faults that most disfigure a Horse: and next vnto colour: his pace doth often times deceiue and goe beyond a very quicke iudgement.

Some of these Horse-hunters, are as nimble knaues in finding out the infirmities of a Jade, as a Barber is in drawing of teeth: and albeit (without calling his water) he does more readily reckon vp all the Aitches, Cramps, Cricks, and whatsoeuer disease else lyes in his bones: and for those diseases fames vtterly to dislike him, yet if he by looking vpon the Dyall within his mouth, finde that his yeares haue stricke but fiue, sixe or seauen: and that he proues but young, or that his diseases are but newly growing vpon him if they be outward, or haue but haire and skin to hide them, if they be inward, let him sweare neuer so damnably, that it is but a Jade, yet he will be sure to sasken vpon him.

The picture of a Horse-courser.

So then, a Horse-courser to the Merchant, (that out of his sound iudgement buys the fayrest, the best-bred, and the noblest horses, selling them againe for hyre or seruice, with plainnesse and honesty,) is as the Cheato to the faire Gamester: hee is indeede a meere Jadish Mercenarie, and deales for none but tired tainted dull and diseased horses. By which meanes, if his picture be drawne to the life you shall find euery Horse-courser for the most part to be in qualitie a cozener, by profession a knaue, by his cunning a Varlet in faires a hagling Chapman, in the City a cogging dissembler in Smithfield a common forswore villaine. He will sweare any thing, but the faster hee sweares, the more danger 'tis to beleeue him: In one forenoone, and in selling a Jade not worth fiue Nobles, will hee forsweare himselfe fiftene times, and that forswearing too, shall bee by Equiuocation. As for example,

if

if an ignorant Chapman comming to beate the price, say to the Horse-courser your Nagge is very olde, or thus many yeeres old, and reckon ten or twelue: hee claps his hand presently on the buttocke of the beast, and prayes hee may bee damn'd if the horse be not vnder fiue, meaning that the horse is not vnder fiue yeeres of age, but that hee stands vnder fiue of his fingers, when his hand is clap'd vpon him. These Horse-coursers are called Iynglers, and these Iynglers hauing layde out their money on a company of Iades, at some drunken faire, vp to London they driue them, and vpon the Market day into Smithfield bravely come they prancing. But lest their Iades should shew too many horse-tricks in Smithfield, before so great an Audience as commonly resort thither, their Masters doe therefore Schoole them at home after this manner.

How a Horse-courser workes vpon a Iade in his owne Stable, to make him serviceable for a couzening Race in Smithfield.

How a horse courser may couzen his chapman with a horse that hath the Glanders.

THe Glanders in a horse is so filthy a disease, that he who is troubled with it can neuer keepe his nose cleane: so that when such a foule nosed Iade happens to serue a Horse-courser, he hath more strange pills (then a Pothecary makes) for the purging of his head; he knowes that a horse with such a qualitie, is but a beastly companion to trauell vpon the high way with any Gentleman.

Albeit therefore, that the Glanders haue played with his Nose so long that hee knowes not how to mend himselfe, but that disease being suffered to run vpon him many yeeres together is growne inuincible, yet hath our Iugling Mountibanke Smithfield-rider, a tricke to cure him fiue or sixe wayes: and this is one of them.

In the very morning when he is to be rifled away amongst the Gamsters in Smithfield before hee thrust his head out of his Masters Stable, the Horse-courser tickles his nose (not with a pipe of Tobacco) but with a good quantitie of the best Nazing powder that can be gotten: which with a quill being blowne vp into the Nostrils, to make it worke the bet-

ter, hee ſtands poaking there vp and downe with two long feathers plucked from the wing of a Goose, they being dipt in the iuyce of Garlicke, or in any ſtrong oyle, and thruſt vp to the very top of his head ſo farre as poſſible they can reach, to make the poore dumbe beaſt auoyde the filth from his noſtrils, which hee will doe in great abeundance: this being done, he comes to him with a new medicine for a ſicke horſe, and mingling the iuyce of bruzed Garlicke, ſharpe byting Muſtard, and ſtrong Ale together, into both the noſtrills (with a Horne) is powred a good quantitie of this filthy broth, which by the hand being held in by ſtopping the noſtrils cloſe together, at length with a little neezing moze, his noſe will bee cleaner then his Maſters the Horſe-courſer, and the filth be ſo artificially ſtop't, that for eight or ten houres a Jade will hold vp his head with the proudeſt Gelding that gallops ſcornefully by him and neuer haue neede of wiping.

This is one of the Comedies, a Common Horſe-courſer playes by himſelfe at home, but if when he comes to acte the ſecond part abroad, you would diſgrace him, and haue him hiſſed at for not playing the Ranſue well, then handle him thus: If you ſuſpect that the Nagge which hee would Jade you with, be troubled with that or any other ſuch like diſeaſe, gripe him hard about the weſand pipe, cloſe towards the roofe of the tongue, and holding him there ſo long and ſo forcibly, that hee cough twice or thrice, if then (after you let goe your hold) his chappes beginne to walke, as if hee were chewing downe a horſe-loafe, ſhake hands with old Monſieur Caukero Horſe-courſer, but clappe no bargaine vpon it, for his Jade is as full of infirmity, as the Maſter of Tullanic.

Other Gambals that Horſe-courſers practiſe vpon Foundred Horſes, old Iades, &c.

SMithfield is the Stage vpon which the Mountibanke Engliſh Horſe-courſer aduancing his Banner, defies any diſeaſe that dares touch his Prancer: inſomuch that if a Horſe be ſo old, as that foure legges can but carry him, yet ſhall hee beare the markes of a Nagge not aboue fiue or ſeauen yeares of age: and that counterfeit badge of youth, hee weares thus:

the

the Horſe-courſer with a ſmall round yron made very hot, burnes two blacke holes in the toppe of the two outmoſt teeth of each ſide, the outſide of the Horſe mouth vpon the nether teeth, and ſo likewiſe of the teeth of the vpper chappe, which ſtand oppoſite to the nether, the quallitie of which markes, is to ſhew that a horſe is but young: but if the Jade bee ſo olde, that thoſe teeth are dropt out of his head, then is there a tricke ſtill to be fumbling about his olde chaps, and in that ſtroaking his chin, to pricke his lippes cloſely with a pin, or a nayle, til they bee ſo tender, that albeit hee were a giuen horſe, none could be ſuffered to looke him in the mouth: (which is one of the beſt Calenders to tell his age) but a reaſonable ſighted eye (without helpe of ſpectacles) may eaſily diſcouer this iugling, becauſe it is groſſe and common.

If now a Horſe (hauing beene a ſore Traueller) happen by falling into a cold ſweat to be foundred, ſo that (as if he were drunke, or had the ſtaggers) he can ſcarſe ſtand on his legges, then will his maſter, before he enter into the liſts of the field againſt all commers, put him into a villanous chafing, by ryding him vp and downe, a quarter or halfe a houre, till his limbes be throughly heated, and this he does, becauſe ſo long as he can diſcharge that falſe fire, or that (being ſo collerickly hot) hée tramples onely vpon ſoft ground, a very cunning Horſeman ſhall hardly finde where his ſhoe wrings him, or that he is Foundred. And (to blind the eyes of the Chapman) the Horſe-courſer will be euer tickling of him with his wand becauſe hee may not by ſtanding ſtill like an Aſſe, ſhew of what houſe he comes.

If a Horſe come into the fielde (like a lame Souldier) halting, hée has not Crutches made for him, as the Souldier hath, but becauſe you ſhall thinke the Horſes ſhoomaker hath ſerued him like a Jade, by not fitting his foote well, the ſhooe ſhall bee taken off purpoſely from that foote which halts, as though it had béene loſt by chance: and to proue this, witneſſes ſhall come in, if at laſt twenty or thirty damnable oathes can be taken, that the want of the Shoe is onely the cauſe of his halting. But if a horſe cannot be luſty at legs, by reaſon that either his hoofes be not good, or that there be Splents, or any

other Eye-sore about the nether ioynt, the Horse courser ties him then as Cheating Swaggerers handle Novices, what they cannot win by Dice, they will haue by foule play: and in that foule maner, deales he with the poore horse, riding him vp and downe in the thickest and the durtiest places, till that durt, like a ruffed boote drawne vpon an ill fauour'd gowty leg, couer the Jades infirmitie from the eye of the buyer.

How a Horse courser makes a Jade that has no stomacke, to eate Lamb pye.

ALbeit Lamb-pye bee good meate vpon a table, yet it is so offensiue to a Horses stomacke that he had rather be fed a moneth together with mustie Oates, then to taste it: Yet are not all Horses bidden to this Lamb-pye Breakefasts, but onely such as are dieted with no other meate: and those are Dull, Blockish, Sullen, and heauy-footed Jades. Whensoeuer therefore a Horsecourser hath such a dead commoditie, as a Lumpish slow Iade, that goes more heauy then a Cow when shee trots, and that neither by a sharpe bit, nor a tickling spurre hee can put him out of his lazie and dogged pace, what does hee with him then? Onely he giues him Lambe-pye. That is to say, euery morning when the Horse-courser comes into the Stable, he takes vp a tough round cudgell, and neuer leaues fencing with his quarter-staffe at the poore Horses sides and buttocks, till with blowes hee hath made them so tender, that the very shaking of a bough will bee able to make the Horse ready to runne out of his wits. And to keepe the horse still in this made moode, because he shall not forget his lesson, his Master will neuer come neere him, but hee will haue a fling at him. If he doe but touch him he strikes him, if he speakes to him, there is but a word and a blow: if hee doe but looke vpon him, the horse flings and takes on, as though he would breake through the walles, or had beene a Horse bred vp in Bedlam amongst mad folkes. Hauing thus gotten this hard lesson by heart, forth comes he into Smithfield, to repeate it; where the Rider shall no sooner leape into the saddle but the Horse-courser giuing the Jade (that is halfe scarred out of his wits already) three or foure good bangs, away flies Bucephalus as

if

if young Alexander were vpon his backe, no ground can hold him, no bridle raine him in, he gallops away as if the Deuill had hired him of some Hackney man, and scuds through thicke and thin, as if crackers had hung at his heeles. If his tayle play the wag, and happen to whiske vp and downe (which is a signe that he does his feates of actiuitie, like a Tumblers prentice) by compulsion, and without taking pleasure in them, then shall you see the Horse-courser lay about him like a thresher, till with blowes he make him carry his tayle to his buttocks: which in a Horse (contrary to the nature of a Dog) is an argument that he hath mettall in him and spirit, as in the other it is the note of cowardize.

These and such other base Iuglings are put in practise, by the Horse-courser; in this manner comes hee arm'd into the field: with such bad and deceitfull commodities, does he furnish the markets. Neither steps hee vpon the Diuels Stage alone, but others are likewise Actors in the selfe same Sceane, and sharers with him. For no sooner shall money be offered for a Horse, but presently one Snake thrusts out his head, and stings the buyer with false prayses of the Horses goodnesse: Another throwes out his poysoned hooke, and whispers in the chapmans eare, that vpon his knowledge so much, or so much hath beene offered by foure or fiue, and would not be taken: and of these Rauens there be sundry nests, but all of them as blacke in soule as the Horse-courser (with whom they are yoked) is in conscience. This Regiment of Horsemen, is therefore diuided into foure Squadrons (viz)

1. When Horse-coursers trauell to Countrey Faires, they are called Iynglers.

2. When they haue the leading of the Horse, and serue in Smithfield they are Drouers.

3. They that stand by and conny-catch the Chapman, either with Out-bidding, false praises, &c. are called Roads.

4. The boyes, stripplings, &c. that haue the riding of the Iades vp and downe, are called Skip-iacks.

Of Iacke in a Boxe.

CHAP. X.

Of a new kind of Cheating, teaching how to change gold into Siluer, vnto which is added a Map, by which a man may learne how to trauell ouer all England, and haue his charges borne.

HOw many Trees of Euill are growing in this Countrey, how tall they are, how mellow is their fruit, and how gredily gathered, so much ground doe they take vp, and so thickly doe they stand together, that it seemeth a kingdome can bring forth no more of their nature, yes yes: there are not halfe so many riuers in Hell, in which a soule may saile to damnation, as there are blacke streames of Mischiefes and Villanie, (beſides all thoſe which in our now two voyages wee haue ventured ſo many leagues vp, for diſcouery) in which, thouſands of people are continually ſwimming, and euery minute in danger vtterly to be caſt away.

Abuſes of race-running glanced at.

The Horſe-courſer of Hell, after hee had durtied himſelfe with riding vp and downe Smithfield, and hauing his beaſt vnder him, gallopped away amaine to behold a race of fiue miles by a couple of Running Horſes, vpon whoſe ſwiftneſſe great ſummes of money were layde in wagers. In which Schoole of Horſeman-ſhip (wherein for the moſt part none but Gallants are the Students) hee conſtrued but ſtrange Lectures of Abuſes: hee could make large Comments vpon thoſe that are the Runners of thoſe Races, and could teach others how to loſe forty, or fiftie pound politikely in the forenoone, and in the afternoone (with the ſelfe ſame Gelding) to winne a thouſand markes in fiue or ſixe miles riding. Hee could tell how Gentlemen are fetched in and made younger brothers, and how your new knight comes to bee a couzen of this Race. He could drawe the true pictures of ſome fellowes, that dyet theſe Running-horſes: who for a bribe of forty ſhillings can by a falſe Dye, make their owne Maſters looſe a hundred pound a race. Hee could ſhew more crafty Foxes in this

this wild-goose chase, then there are white Foxes in Russia, and more strange horse-tricks playd by such Riders, then Banke his curtail did euer practise (whose gambals of the two were the honester.)

But because this sort of Birds haue many feathers to loose before they can feele any cold, hee suffers them to make their owne flight, knowing that prodigals doe but iest at the stripes which other mens roddes giue them, and neuer complaine of smarting, till they be whip'd with their owne.

In euery corner hee did finde Serpents ingendring: vnder euery roofe some impiety or other lay breeding: but at last perceiuing, that the most part of men were by the sorcery of their owne deuilish conditions, transformed into Wolues, and being so changed, were more brutish and bloody then these that were Wolues by nature: his splæne leaped against his ribs with laughter, and in the height of that toy, resolued to write the villanies of the World in Folio, and to dedicate them in priuate, to his Lord and Master, because he knew him to bee an open handed Patron, albeit he was no great louer of Schollers.

But hauing begunne one picture of a certaine strange beast, (called Iacke in a Boxe) that onely (because the City had giuen mony already to see it) hee finished: and in these colours was Iacke in a Boxe drawne. It hath the head of a man, (the face well bearded) the eyes of a Hawke, the tongue of a Lapwing, which sayes here it is, when the nest is a good way off: it hath the stomacke of an Estrich, and can digest siluer, as easily as that bird doth yron. It hath the pawes of a Beare in stead of hands, for whatsoeuer it fasteneth vpon it holdes: from the middle downe-wards, it is made like a Grayhound, and is so swift of foote, that if it once get the start of you, a whole Kennell of Hounds cannot ouertake it. It loues to hunt dry-foote, and can Sent a Traine in no ground so well as the City, and yet not in all places of the City. But he is best in Senting betweene Ludgate and Temple-barre: and it is thought that his next hunting shall be betweene Lumbard-street and the Gold-smiths Row in Cheapside. Thus much for his outward parts, now you shall haue him vnrip'd and see his inward.

Iacke in a Boxe described.

This Iacke in a Boxe, or this Diuell in mans shape, wea-

ring (like a player on a ſtage, good clothes on his backe) comes to a Goldſmiths Stall, to a Drapers, a Haberdaſhers, or into any other ſhoppe, where he knowes good ſtore of ſiluer faces are to be ſeene. And there drawing forth a faire new purſe, hammered all out of Siluer plate, he opens it, and powres forth twenty or forty twenty-ſhillings pieces in new Gold. To which heape of worldly temptation, thus much hee addes in words, that either he himſelfe, or ſuch a Gentleman (to whom he belongs) hath an occaſion for foure or fiue dayes to vſe forty pound. But becauſe he is very ſhortly (nay he knowes not how ſuddenly) to trauaile to Venice, to Ieruſalem or ſo, and would not willingly bee diſfurniſhed of Gold, he doth therefore requeſt the Citizen to lend (vpon thoſe Forty twenty-ſhilling pieces) ſo much in white money (but for foure, or fiue, or ſixe dayes at the moſt) and for his good will he ſhall receiue any reaſonable ſatisfaction. The Citizen (knowing the pawne to be better then a Bond) powreth downe forty pound in ſiluer: the other drawes it, and hauing ſo much gold in hoſtage, marcheth away with Bag and Baggage.

Fiue dayes being expired, Iacke in a Boxe (according to his bargaine) being a man of his word, comes againe to the ſhop or ſtall, (at which he Angles for freſh Fiſh) and there caſting out his line with a ſiluer hooke, that is to ſay, powring out the forty pound which he borrowed. The Citizen ſends in, or ſteppes himſelfe for the Boxe with the Golden Deuill in't: it is opened, and the army of Knaues being muſtered together, they are all found to be there. The Boxe is ſhut againe and ſet on the ſtall whileſt the Citizen is telling of his mony: But whileſt the muſicke is ſounding, Iacke in a Boxe acts his part in a dumbe ſhew thus; he ſhifts out of his fingers another Boxe of the ſame mettall and making, that the former beares, which ſecond Boxe is filled only with ſhillings, and being poiſed in the hand, ſhall ſeeme to carry the weight of the former, and is clap'd downe in place of the firſt. The Citizen in the meane time (whileſt this Pit-fall is made for him) telling the forty pounds, miſſeth thirty or forty ſhillings in the whole ſumme, at which the Iacke in a Boxe ſtarting backe (as if it were a matter ſtrange vnto him) at laſt (making a gathering

thering within himselfe for his wits) he remembers, he sayes, that he layd by so much money as is wanting (of the forty pounds) to dispatch some businesse or other, and forgot to put it into the bag againe; notwithstanding, he intreats the Citizen to keepe his Gold still, he will take the white money home to fetch the rest, and make vp the summe, his absence shall not bee aboue an houre or two: before which time hee shall bee sure to heare of him, and with this the little Deuil vanisheth carrying that away with him, which in the end will send him to the Gallowes, (that is to say, his owne Gold) and forty pound besides of the Shop-keepers, which he borrowed, the other being glad to take forty shillings for the whole debt, and yet is soundly bort for his labor.

This Iacke in a Boxe, is yet but a Chicken, and hath laid very few Egges, if the Hangman doe not spoyle it with treading, it will proue an excellent Henne of the Game. It is a knot of Cheators but newly tyed, they are not yet a company. They flye not like Wild-Geese (in flockes) but like Kites (single) as loth that any should share in their prey. They haue two or three names, (yet they are no Romanes, but errant rogues) for sometimes they call themselues Iacke in a Boxe, but now that their infantry growes strong, and that it is known abroad, that they carry the Philosophers Stone about them, and are able of forty shillings to make forty pound, they therefore vse a dead March, and the better to cloake their villanies, doe put on these Masking suits.

1. This art or sleight of changing gold into siluer, is called Trimming.

2. They that practise it, terme themselues Sheepshearers.

3. The Gold which they bring to the Citizen, is called Iasons Fleece.

4. The siluer which they picke vp by this wandring, is White-wooll.

5. They that are Cheated by Iacke in a Boxe, are called Bleaters.

Oh Fleetestreete, Fleete-streete! how hast thou beene trim'd, washed, shaven and polde, by these deere and damnable Barbers? how often hast thou met with these Sheep-shea-

rers? how many warme fleeces of wooll haue they pulled from thy backe, yet if thy Bleating can make the flocks that graze neere vnto thee, and round about thee to lift vp their eyes, and to shun such Wolues and Foxes, when they are approaching, or to haue them worried to death before they sucke the blood of others, thy misfortunes are the lesse, because thy neighbours by them shall be warned from danger.

Many of thy Gallants (O Fleete-streete) haue spent hundreds of pounds in thy presence, and yet neuer were so much as drunke for it: but for euery forty pound that thou layest out in this Indian commodity (of Gold) thou hast a Siluer Box bestowed vpon thee, to carry thy Tobacco in, because thou hast euer loued that costly and Gentleman-like Smoke. Iacke in a Box hath thus playd his part. There is yet another Actor to step vpon the Stage, and he seemes to haue good skill in Cosmography, for he holds in his hand a Map, wherein hee hath layd downe a number of Shires in England, and with small prickes hath beaten out a path, teaching how a man may easily (though not very honestly) trauell from Country, to Country, and haue his charges borne: and thus it is.

How to trauaile without charges

He that vndertakes this strange journey, layes his first plot how to be turned into a braue man, which he findes, can be done by none better then by a crusty Taylor: working therefore hard with him, till his suite be granted. Out of the City, being mounted on a good gelding, he rides, vpon his owne bare credit, not caring whether he trauell to meete the Sunne at his Rising, or at his going downe. He knowes his Kitchin smokes in euery Country, and his Table is couered in euery Shire. For when he comes within a mile of a towne, where he meanes to catch Quailes, setting Spurres to his Horse, away he gallops, with his cloake off (for in these Besiegings of Townes he goes not armed with any) his Hat thrust into his hose, as if it were lost, and onely an emptie paire of Hangers by his side, to shew that he had beene disarmed. And you must note, that this Hot spurre does neuer set vpon any places but onely such, where hee knowes (by intelligence) there are store of Gentlemen, or wealthy Farmers at the least. Amongst whom when hee is come, he tels with distracted lookes, and a voyce, almost breathlesse,

leſſe, how many villaines ſet vpon him, what gold and ſiluer they tooke from him, what woods they are fled into, from what part of England he is come, to what place he is going, how farre he is from home, how farre from his iournies end, or from any Gentleman of his acquaintance, and ſo liuely perſonates the lying Greeke Synon, in telling a lamentable tale, that the mad Troians (the Gentlemen of the Towne, beleeuing him, and the rather becauſe he carries the ſhape of an honeſt man in ſhew, and of a Gentleman in his apparell) are liberall of their purſes, lending him money to beare him on his iourney, to pay which, hee offers either his Bill or Bond (naming his lodging in London) or giues his word, as he is a Gentleman, which they rather take, knowing the like miſfortune may be theirs at any time.

And thus with the feathers of other birds, is this Monſter ſtucke, making wings of ſundry fashions, with which he thus baſely flyes ouer a whole Kingdome. Thus doth he ride from Towne to Towne, from City to Citie, as if he were a Land-Lord in euery Shire, and that he were to gather Rents vp of none but Gentlemen.

There is a Twinne-brother to this False-gallopper, and hee cheates Inne-keepers onely, or their Tapſters, by learning firſt what Countrymen they are, and of what kindred: and then bringing counterfeit letters of commendations from ſuch an Vncle, or ſuch a Couzen (wherein is requeſted, that the Bearer thereof may be vſed kindly) hee lyes in the Inne till he haue fetcht ouer the Maſter or ſeruant for ſome Money, to draw whom to him he hath many hookes, and when they haue firſt angled enough by the gils vnder water Our Sharke dines, and is neuer ſeene againe to ſwimme in that Riuer.

Upon this Scaffold alſo might bee mounted a number of Trauelling Quack-ſaluing Empericks, who arriuing in ſome Countrey Towne, clap vp their Terrible Billes, in the Market place, and filling the Paper with ſuch horrible names of Diſeaſes, as if euery diſeaſe were a Diuell, and that they could conjure them out of any Towne at their pleaſure. Yet theſe Beggerly Mountebanks are meere Couzeners, and haue not ſo much Skill as Horſe-leeches. The poore people not giuing money to them

to bee cured of any infirmities, but rather with their money buying worse infirmities of them.

Strowling Schoole-maisters.

Upon the same Post, doe certaine straggling Scribbling Writers deserue to haue both their names and themselues hung vp, in stead of those faire Tables which they hang vp in Townes, as gay pictures to entice Schollers to them: the Tables are written with sundry kindes of hands, but not one finger of those hands (not one letter there) drops from the Penne of such a false wandring Scribe. Hee buyes other mens cunning good cheape in London, and sells it deare in the Countrey. These Swallowes braggs of no quality in them so much as of swiftnesse. In foure and twentie houres, they will worke foure and twenty wonders, and promise to teach those, that know no more what belongs to an A. then an Asse, to be able (in that narrow compasse) to write as faire, and as fast as a Countrey Vicar, who commonly reads all the Townes Letters.

But wherefore doe these counterfeit Masters of that Noble Science of Writing, keepe such a flourishing with the borrowed weapons of other mens Pennes: onely for this, to get halfe the Birds (which they striue to catch) into their hands, that is to say, to bee payd halfe the money which is agreed vpon for the Scholler, and his nest being halfe fil'd with such Gold-Finches, he neuer stayes till the rest bee fledge, but suffers him that comes next, to beate the bush for the other halfe. At this Carrere, the Rider that set out last from Smithfield, stop'd: and alighting from Pacolet (the Horse that carried him) his next journey was made on foote.

THE

THE BELMANS SECOND Nights-walke.

CHAP. XI.
Night-prizes of Villany.

SIr Lancelot of the infernal Lake, or the knight Errant of Hell, having thus (like a young Countrey Gentleman) gone round about the Citie, to see the sights not onely within the walles, but those also in the Suburbs, was glad when he saw night leap into her Coach, because now he knew hee should meete with other strange Birds fluttering from their nests, and crawling out of their dennes. His Prognostication held currant, and the foule weather (which he foretold) fell out accordingly. For Candle-light had scarce opened his eye to looke at the City, (like a gunner shooting at a marke) but fearefully (their feete trembling under them) their eyes suspitiously rouing from euery nooke to nooke round about them, and their heads (as if they stood vpon oyled skrues) still turning backe behind them, came creeping out of hollow trees, where they lay hidden, a number of couzening Bankrupts, in the shapes of Owles, who when the Marshall of light, the Sunne went vp and downe to search the Citie, durst not stirre abroad, for feare of being hooted at, and followed by whole flocks of vndone Creditors.

But now when the stage of the World was hung in blacke, they ietted vp and downe like proud Tragedians. O what thankes they gaue to darkenesse! what songs they balladed out in prayse of Night, for bestowing vpon them so excellent a cloake, wherein they might so safely walke muffled! Now durst they, as if they had beene Constables, rap aloud at the doores of those to whom they owed most money, and braue them

them with hie wordes, though hee payd them not a penny.

Now did they boldly step into some priuiledged Tauerne, and there drinke Healthes, dance with Harlots, and pay both Drawers and Fidlers after midnight with other mens moneys and then march home againe fearelesse of the blowes that any Inuader clapper durst giue them. Out of another nest flew certaine Murderers and Theeues in the shapes of screech-owles, who being set on by the Night, did beate with their bold and venturous fatall wings at the very doores, whereas in former times their villanies had entred.

Not farre from These, came crawling out of their bushes a company of graue and wealthy Lechers, in the shapes of Glow-wormes, who with Gold Iyngling in their pockets, made such a shew in the night that the doores of common Brothelries flew open to receiue them, though in the day time they durst not passe that way, for feare that noted Curtezans should challenge them of acquaintance, or that others should laugh at them to see white heads growing vpon greene stalkes.

Then came forth certaine infamous earthy minded Creatures in the shape of Snailes, who all the day time hiding their heads in their shells, lest Boyes should with two fingers point at them for liuing basely vpon the prostitution of their wiues bodies, cared not now, before Candle light to shoot out their largest Hornes.

A number of other monsters like these were seene, (as the Sunne went downe) to venture from their dens, onely to ingender with Darkenesse: but candle-lights eye-sight growing dimmer and dimmer, and he at last falling starke blind, Lucifers Watch-man went stumbling vp and downe in the darke.

How to weane Horses.

EVery doore on a sudden was shut, not a candle stood peeping through any window, not a Vintner was to be seene brewing in his Cellor, not a drunkard to be met reeling, not a House to be heard stirring: all the Citie shewed like one Bed and all in that Bed were soundly cast in a sleepe. Noyse made no noyse, for euery one that wrought with the hammer was put to silence. Yet notwithstanding when euen the Diuell himselfe could haue beene contented to take a nap, there were

were few Inne-keepers about the towne but had their spirits walking. To watch which spirits what they did, our Spy that came lately out of the Lovver Countries, stole into one of their circles, where lurking very closely, he perceiued that when all the guests were profoundly sleeping, when Carriers were soundly snoring, and not so much as the Chamberlaine of the house but was layd vp, suddenly out of his bed started an Ostler, who hauing no apparrell on but his shirt, a paire of slip-shoes on his feete, and a candle burning in his hand, like olde Ieronimo, stept into the stable amongst a number of poore hungry Iades, as if that night he had bene to ride post to the deuil. But his iourney not lying that way til some other time, he neither bridled nor saddled any of his foure-footed guests that stood there at racke and manger, but seeing them so late at supper and knowing that to ouer eate themselues would fill them full of diseases (they being subiect to aboue an hundred and thirty already) hee first (without a voyder) after a most vnmannerly fashion take away, not only all the Prouender that was set before them, but also all the hay, at which before they were glad to licke their lips. The poore horse looked very ruefully vpon him for this, but he rubbing their teeth only with the end of a Candle (in stead of a Corrall) told them, that from their Iadish tricks it was now time to weane them: And so wishing them not to be angry if they lay vpon the hard boards, considering all the beds in the house were full, backe againe hee stole to his couch, till breake of day: yet fearing lest the Sunne should rise to discouer his knauery, vp he started, and into the stable he stumbled, scarce halfe awake, giuing to euery Iade a bottle of hay for his breake-fast, but all of them being troubled with the greazy Tooth-ach, could eate none, which their maisters in the morning espying swore they were either sullen, or else that prouender pricked them.

The knauery of Ostlers.

This Hostler for this peece of seruice was afterwards preferred to be one of the Groomes in Belzebubs stable.

Another Night-peece drawne in sundry colours.

SHall I shew you what other bottomes of mischiefes Plutoes Beadle saw wound vpon the blacke spindles of the

Night, in this his priuy search: In some streets he met Pid-wiues running till they sweat, and following them close at heeles, he spied them to be let in, at the backe doores of houses, seated either in blind lanes or in by-gardens: which houses had roomes builded for the purpose, where young maides, being big with child by vnlawfull Fathers: or yong wiues (in their husbands absence at Sea, or in the Wars) hauing wrastled with batchellers, or married men, till they caught falls, lay safely till they were deliuered of them. And for reasonable sums of money, the bastards that at these windows crept into the world, were as closely now and then sent presently out of the world, or else were so vnmannerly brought vp, that they neuer spake to their owne parents that begot them.

In some streets he met seruants, in whose brest albeit the arrowes of the plague stucke halfe way, yet by cruell Masters were they driuen out of doores at midnight, and conuaied to Garden houses, where they either dyed before next morning, or else were carried thither dead in their coffins, as though they had lyen sicke there before, and there had dyed.

Now and then at the corner of a turning, he espied seruants purloyning fardels of their masters goods, and deliuering them to the hands of common strumpets.

This doore opened, and Lust with Prodigality were heard to stand closely kissing: and (wringing one another by the hand) softly to whisper out foure or fiue good nights till they met abroad the next morning.

A thousond of these Comedies were Acted in dumbe shew, and onely in the Private houses: at which the Diuels messenger laught so loud that Hell heard him, and for ioy rang forth loude and lusty plaudities. But beeing driuen into wonder, why the Night would fall in labour, and bring foorth so many Villanies, whose births shee practised to couer (as shee had reason) because so many Watchmen were continually called and charged to haue an eye to her doings, at length hee perceiued that Bats (more vgly & more in number then these) might flye vp and downe in darkenes; for though with their letherne Wings they should strike the very Bils out of those Watchmens handes, such leaden plummets were commonly hung

by

by sleepe at all their eye-lids, that hardly they could be awakened to strike them againe.

On therefore he walkes, with intent to hasten home, as having fil'd his Table-bookes with sufficient notes of intelligence. But at the last, meeting with the Bel-man, and not knowing what hee was, because hee went without his Lanthorne, and some other implements: for the Man in the Moone was vp the most part of the night, and lighted him which way soeuer he turned, hee tooke him for some churlish Hobgoblin, seeing a long staffe on his necke, and therefore to bee one of his owne fellowes. The Bel-ringer smelling what strong Sent he had in his nose, soothed him vp, and questioned with him how he had spent his time in the Citie, and what discouerie of Land-villanies hee had made in this Iland Voyage: the Mariner of Hell opened his Chart which he had lined with all abuses: lying either East, West, North, or South: hee shewed how he had pricked it, vpon what points he had sayl'd, where hee put in, vnder what height hee kept himselfe: where hee went a shoare, what strange people hee met: what land hee had discouered, and what commodities hee was laden with from thence. Of all which the Bel-man drawing forth a perfect Map, they parted. But calling to mind the particular points of his Commission: of which a Principall one was, that hee should visite Prisons, (in his Progresse,) Into a Jayle our infernall Catchpoll, the next morning conuaid himselfe. And looking to heare there nothing, but sighing, lamenting, praying, and cryings out of afflicted and forlorne creatures, there was no such matter. But onely a clamorous noyse of cursing Creditors, drinking healths to their confusion, swaggering, roaring, striking, stabbing one another: as if that all Desperadoes of fifteene Armies had bin swearing together. Considering the desperate resolutions of some, hee wished himselfe in his owne Territories, knowing more safety there, then in this Hospitall of incurable mad-men, and could not till about dinner time be perswaded, but that the Jayle was Hell, euery roome was so smoakie with Tobacco, and oathes flying faster about, then Tapsters could score vp their frothy reckonings. But the time of munching being come, all the sport was to see,

how the Priſoners (like ſharking Souldiers at the riſing of a towne) ranne vp and downe to arme themſelues againſt that battaile of hunger. Some whetting knues that had meate, others ſcraping Trenchers aloud, that had no meate: Some ambling downe ſtaires for Bread and Beere, meeting another comming vp ſtaires, carrying a platter more proudly aloft, full of Powder Beefe and Brewis, then an Irish man does his enemies head, on the top of his ſword. Euery chamber ſhewing like a Cookes ſhop, where prouant was ſtirring. And thoſe that had no prouander in the manger, nor hay in the racke, walking vp and downe like ſtaru'd Janes, new ouer-ridden in Smithfield. This ſet at Maw being plaid out, all ſeem'd quiet; the water vnder London Bridge, at the turning was not more ſtill, but looking vp being come, that euery Cocke muſt goe to his rooſt, the Muſicke of that (in the iudgement of the Blacke Spy) might well enough ſerue to rocke Gran Belzebub aſleepe. For nothing could be heard, but keyes Iyngling doores rapping, bolts and locks barring in, Iaylers hoarſely & hatchly bawling for priſoners to their bed, and priſoners reuiling and curſing Jaylors for making ſuch a helliſh din. Then to heare ſome in their chambers ſinging & dancing, being halfe drunke: others breaking open doores to get more drinke to bee whole drunke. Some roaring for Tobacco; others raging, & bidding Hells plague on all Tobacco, becauſe it has ſo dryed vp their mouthes, with as many other franticke paſſions, as there bee ſeuerall men; the very report of this Antiche dance, would bee thought be better then a Comedy to his infernall audience, and therefore tooke eſpeciall note of all the mad paſſages.

In the end, the Bedlamites being drowned more in Beare then eares, and the Deuils flye buzzing about euery Priſoners Candle, to ſpye what they did beſides: hee ſaw one ſitting on his bed and reading a diſcouery, which he had made in a long Voyage; Of the which, whileſt the other fell aſlape, he ſtole the Papers, and placing them together, ſent them to the Bel-man, who afterward thus attir'd, ſent them into the World.

The

CHAP. XII.

The abuses done to Prisoners, by ouer-cruell Creditors.

ALbeit I haue done with Prison-kéepers, I must not take such an abrupt leane of Prisoners.

In the Bel-mans second Night-walke, hee telde you what strange Transformations men were chang'd into in one Prison, where there was nothing heard but Roaring, Drinking, Fighting, Swearing: but going a little further. There was in the Chambers of another Prison, the sound of Tunes moze Tragicall, moze serious: Here was another manner of noyse, new terrors, new shrickes, new condolements. No, no, they were not new, the ayre is fil'd with them euery day; they are not strange, because they are common.

The Bel-man went on, whither this fearefull noyse led him, and on a suddaine came into a Magicall circle, in which were rayled none but spirits of confusion, as Ululations, Deplorations, groanes, cries, sighes, and complainings. Tragicall tunes.

It was not the cry at an Irish Funerall, which is insufferable Howling; nor the crying of English Widdowes, at the buriall of their husbands, which scarce wetts a handkercher, but the cry of men which pierceth the Cloudes. The cry is vp.

They did cry to Heauen, to Earth, to God, to man; Heauen heard all, and receiued some: Earth layd vp some, and fed all the rest; God pitied those whom he tooke, and preserued those that were left: but cruell man, neither regards those that are here, nor respects those that are gone. Suppose this in a time of sicknesse.

The Cry of these men is loud, it is heard abeue the starres; the cry is great, it incompasseth in, two Cities; it is the cry of Sicknesse, of Melancholy, Madnesse, Hunger, Cold, Thirst, Nakednesse, penury, beggery, misery. A prisoners bed-fellows

It is the cry of Church-men, Tradesmen, Husbandmen, Men vndone: of Schollers, Souldiers, all Pennylesse, all Prisoners. A strange Aueary.

And how far reacheth the ground thinke you, in which these cryes eccho one to another? let your eyes walke but ouer this paper, and here survay is drawne.

A cluſter of ſowre Grapes.

Upon one ſide of the Thamis ſtand, the white Lyon, the Kings-Bench, the Marſhal-ſea, the Clinke, the Counter in South-warke. On the other ſide, the Gate-houſe, Ludgate, Newgate, Wood-ſtreete Counter, Poultry Counter, Finsbury, New-priſon, Lobs pound, and the hole at Saint Katherines. Fourteene Golgagthas inuironing one City: fourteene Charnell-houſes where men are buried aliue: either this muſt proceed from much cruelty in the Creditor, or much deceit in the Debtor.

Howſoeuer, theſe Blocke-houſes of the Law, ſhould not ſtrike thoſe quite thorow and thorow, that bayle Bounet, to their mercy and authority, yet they doe. But if Trueth and Mercy would take Candles in their hands, and ſhew the faces of theſe crying Priſoners. Alas! what wretched, leane, ſtarued, diſcoloured, and dejected countenances would they behold: what a Forlorne Hope would this be?

In ſome of theſe ragged Regiments, are 100. In ſome 200 in ſome 80. In all the 14. one thouſand at leaſt: what a loſſe is this to the King? what diſhonour to the Country? what ſcandall to Chriſtianitie? what deriſion to Policy? But remember thou (whatſoeuer thou art) that art a Creditor, and haſt incloſed thy heart betweene walls of Flint and Marble, remember that a Priſoner is Gods Image, yet mans ſlaue, and a Seruiteners Bond-man. He is Chriſts Pawne, Redéemed from one Hell, and caſt into another.

A priſoners picture.

A Priſoner is a Bird in a Cage, when he ſings he mournes: a Beare at a ſtake, bayted for money; a Horſe in a Pound, be his courage neuer ſo great, there 'tis loſt; a Daniel in the Lyons den, but wheres his Abacuc? Remember O cruell man, thy Priſoner pines in a Jayle, his wife at home, his children beg, ſeruants ſtarue: his goods are leizd on, reputation ruin'd, his name forgotten, health ſhaken, his wits diſtracted, his converſation blaſted, his life miſerable, his death contemptible.

The miſery of a priſoner

A Court Creditor.

A City Creditor.

If a Gentleman keepes a wretch in Priſon, he deſerues to be degraded, for Gentry is bound to honour, to defend the oppreſſed. If a Citizen barres a man of his liberty he himſelfe is not free, but hazzards the danger of beeing a Forreiner in Heauen, for diſfranchizing his Brother on earth. If a Countrey-man

A Country Creditor.

trey-man stille his neighbour in a nasty Jayle, let him not be angry if God blasts his Corne, kills his Cattell, burnes his Barnes, and blowes downe his Trees; when he himselfe defaces, dishonors, and destroyes a peece of worke worth all the World?

If such cruell Creditors should bee asked, what they get when such poore men (their Debtors) dye in prison, you may very well say, Nay, what haue we not lost? your debtors are lost, your soules are (or ought to be afflicted;) Bales of Dice are left for you at the prison doores, you haue the lines of Christians, the bones of Prisoners, the anger of your maker, the curses of wiues, the wooe-worthes of children, the hate of good men, the praise of no man.

CHAP XIII.

The Villanies and abuses committed by Politicke Banck-rupts.

NOw albeit, this poore Irus (last spoken of) is to be pitied and relieued, yet there is one kind of Prisoner, deserues no comfort no Commiseration: and that is the Politicke Banck-rupt.

It is not the honest Bank-rupt vndone by suretiship, Casualities, or losses at Sea; but a politicke Bank-rupt, a Noble-in-the-pound-Banck-rupt, a fiue-shillings, nay a ten-groates-in-the-pound-banck-rupt, a voluntary Villayn, a deuouring Locust, a destroying catterpiller, a golden theefe.

In Anno 38. Hen. 8. An Act beginnes thus. Whereas diuers and sundry persons, craftily obtaining into their hands, great substance of other mens goods, doe suddenly fly to parts vnknowne, or keepe their houses, not minding to pay, or restore to any their Creditors, their Debt or duties, but at their owne wills and pleasures consume the substance obtained by Credit of other men, for their owne pleasures and delicate liuing, against all reason, equitie, and good conscience: Be it therefore enacted, &c.

And then follow seuere ceurses to punish those Anthropophagi (men eaters.)

So

So in Anno 13. Eliza. so in Anno 1. Iacob. Strong and cunning nets were spread by those Parliaments, to catch these Foxes: yet how many of them haue bin since, and at this houre are, earth'd in the Kings Bench, the Fleet, and that abused Sanctuary of Ludgate?

Here they play at Bowles, lye in faire chambers within the Rule, face like Dues, laugh at Lazarus, can walke vp & downe many times, by Habeas Corpus, & scere their Creditors: there they lye Barricadoed (within King Luds Bulwarke) against Gun-shot: there they strut vp and downe the Prison, (like Magnificoes in Venice, on the Rialta) braue in cloathes, spruce in Ruffes, with Gold-wrought Night-caps on their heades. They fede deliciously, plentefully, voluptuously; haue excellent Wines to drinke, handsome Wiues to lye with when they please, who come in, not like the Wiues of prisoners, but of the best and wealthiest Citizens.

These men command the stone walles, not the walls them: They scorne the poore miserable wretches, who begge at the Grate, and liue vpon the charity of the house; on them, they looke as at their vnder-vassals, and crying a Fico, for their Creditors, because there they liue safe, to spend other mens moneys.

How are these wholesome lawes (and the good Princes that made them) abused, by these corroding cankers, that eate into the hearts of ten thousand mens estates, to the vndoing of families, cozening of whole Parishes, and dishonouring of a Noble Kingdome.

Such a Banck-rupt, is a Deuill in a Vault, and so hee may stand, cares not whom he blowes vp. His beginning is subtility, his middle Trechery, his end beggery, if not in himselfe, in his posteritie for;

De male quæsitis, non gaudet tertius hæres.

Goods ill-gotten
E're the third heire lye rotten.

To conclude, such a Banck-rupt, has the head of a Lamb, the eyes of a Dove, the tongue of a Nightingale, the armes of a Free-booter, the hands of a Hang-man, the teeth of a Lyon,

and

and the Belly of an Elephant.

CHAP. XIIII.

The Prisoners Supplication.

WHat with the noyse, first of those Roaring Prisoners, then the cryes of the poore distressed ones, and now lastly, the thunder of this Canon, discharged against this Machivilian brood of Banckrupts; the Bel-man, perswaded the better sort of Prisoners (who had the true feeling of sorrow indeed) to draw a supplication, and to let it goe by this Title. The Prisoners Supplication to Conscience. They did so, and finished it. Not to weary you with all their tedious grievances and complaints, you shall onely have some of the principall heads, leaving the bodyes to lye in Prison still.

The stiles which they pin'd upon Conscience, were many, and great: they cal'd her, Brightest Starre in the Church: Ancient reader of the Law: Rare Pleader: Noblest Herauld to Iudges: Vprightest Clearke in the Chancery: Best Mistresse to the Musters in the Court of Request: Holy Palmer to Good men, and blacke Recorder to Bad-men. They told her, that where she only had a Commission from the King of heauen, to call Creditors before her, they prayed her to doe so, for if she should not to them, they should dye in Prison, and have scarce any to bury them.

The petition with all their instructions she tooke; and folding up the paper put it into her bosome, hasting with all speed conuenient toward the heart of the City.

At length she was entertain'd and welcom'd into a worthy Citizens house: A Gentleman that by her assistance, had risen to great wealth: by her Arguments grew strong in Religion: by her perswasions embrac'd Schollers, loued Souldiers, made much of all men. The picture of a Noble Citizen.

His soule was a Garden, beautifully planted, his minde a Pallace, rarely adorned; his body, a Temple of such admirable building, that people passing by, would do it reuerence.

In this graue Citizens company, was a worke societie, of other Noble spirits, sitting at a Table, all of them taking honor from the City, to be called her sonnes, and thee as much glorying by them to be saluted by the name of Mother.

At the very first sight of Conscience, they all rose vp, receiuing her with all the gracefull complements, that were due to so Diuine and excellent a creature: euery one of them, hasting with a kind of graue Ceremony, to take her by the hand, and seate her highest at the Board.

When all being silent, and their eyes fixed onely vpon her face, with an expectation of some speech from her, she drew out of her bosome, the Prisoners Supplication, read it openly, and repeating the particular numbers of all such miserable men as lay in Prison, she fetch'd a deepe sigh, and there brake into this passionate Abruption: O (quoth Conscience) if amongst you, (but I hope you are none of them) there bee any, vnder whome, men suffer the cruelty of English execution, (worse then the Germane wheele) imprisonment: let Conscience yet perstrade you, to send Mercy, to speake to them at their Iron grates.

The last worke you are to doe in this World, and the hardest to finish, is to beg Mercy, and obtaine it.

The omnipotent builder of the Heauens, oftentimes squares out his Platformes by your Lines and your Measures: For if man commiserates man, the Master and chiefe Almoner of Mercy extends compassion to him,—— if not, not.

Forgiue & be forgiuen. It is one of the mayne Petitions which you tye your soules to euery morning: dally not with the great Treasurer of Heauen and Earth, to aske one thing and meane another: so your owne turnes be serued, you care for nobody ells: not to forgiue when you are forgiuen, is to tell a lye to him that is all trueth; you make a promise, and breake it, you begge a Blessing, and take vp a Curse: such Æquivocation runnes hand in hand with Condemnation.

A Citizens Heraldry. Be men, be Christians, bee Citizens. Citizens professe Generositie Affability, Mœkenesse, Loue, Piety, Pitty this is the Blazon of a Noble Coate: make it the Escutchion of your Armes: Mercy, is the best Motto: Clemency a Crest no Herauld can giue a brauer. Release men made Captiues to you by the Lawes of this Kingdome, and the Lawes which are set downe in the Vpper-house of the Celestiall Parliament will make you free Denizons in a more glorious Kingdome.

A Kingdome! where there is no change of Kings, no alteration of State, no losse of Peeres, no Warres, no reuenges, no Citizens flying for feare of infection, none Dying of them that stay, no Prisoners to write petitions to Conscience, yet Conscience sits there in glory: there is true Majesty, true honour, true peace, true health: there is all life, all happinesse, all immortallity. Shee ended, they arose, and one of the company, who was a Well willer to Prisoners, hastened home to write downe what he heard Conscience vtter. A rare Kingdome.

CHAP. XV.

The Abuses of Keepers, Nurses, or Chare-shomen.

O Sad and dismall Musique! the Belles beginne to Toll heauily, and presently to ring out: Sickneſſe so againe threatens to inuade this Noble Kingdome, againe to locke vp the doores of this populous City, defend vs heauen!

But if the Iudge eternall holds it fit to call another Sessions so soone after the last and to arraigne our liues at the barre for our sinnes, of which most of our soules haue euer since lyen dangerously sicke, then thou (whosoeuer thou art) that art strucke, and must betake thee to thy pillow, pray, and pray heartily, that Heauen may send thee an honest, carefull, conscionable, and good keeper: for in the last and late great sicknesse, many of that Nursery, were as shee wolues, which howl'd euery night at the Moone, and in outward shape were tender-hearted, (almost weeping to see a sicke man, or sicke woman in their beddes) but the aymes of a number of them, (as it proued afterward) were to wrappe such Bodies in their winding sheetes.

Such hard-hearted keepers are Foxes, and when the sheepheard is gon to rest (when all the house is fast asleepe) then worry they the Lambes. The sicker those are whom they keepe, the more easily doe they seize their prey, their Bellies are cupboardes, euer deuouring victualls, not the worst, but the best they can lay their lips on.

Their tongues are lickerish as Flyes, eyes are quicke-sighted as cats at midnight, hands as catching as bird-lime, hearts as false as Dice, yet running smoothly.

They are called keepers, because whatsoeuer they get but hold of, they kéepe it with griping pawes neuer to let it goe.

They are Dry-Nurses, and starue so farre as they dare, all that come vnder their fingers.

They are called Chare-women, because when Death sits all night by the sicke mans bed-side, they by their good wilies sit till morning by a good fire, in easie Chaires, and are therefore christened by the names of Chare-women.

Or, if you will, that word Chare, comes from the Latine word, Chara, which signifies déere. And they that hyre these Night-crowes into their houses, shall find them dearer ware than Bullockes in Smithfield: thousands, in and about London, and Westminster, haue bought their attendance so déere, that their liues haue gone for it. The watch-men of the Citie get not so much amongst all their chalkie Billes in a moneth, as one of these scrapes to her selfe in one night, when shee pluckes but a shirt ouer a dead mans head and eares: Those shirts are their Fées, so are Wast-coats, Night-cappe, Sheets, Pillow-béeres, Bands, Hand-kerchers, any thing. Rats are not such gnawers of linnen, nor Moathes of woollen, as these are of both.

If a rich Bacheler sicken, it is an East Indian voyage, when shée hoyses vp sayle from her owne house into his: and when he dyes, then shee and her lading comes home: Breda is then taken, and shee alone has the spoyle.

The sight of a Doctor strikes her into a palenes, an Apothecaries man with his Urin eyes, giues her a purge, for any one that brings health in his hand, puts sickenesse into her.

The Tolling of Bells, is musicke to her, shée cares not how few line ouer whom shee is Matron, nor how many dye, though in her Armes, the more water shee fishes in, her Fare is the better.

Art thou sicke, and trustest one of these to make thy Broth? Some of them are such Cookes, that what good thing soeuer is prescribed for thy recouery, shall be sure to be left out.

If hot drinkes would saue thy life, she will perswade thée to poure thinne cold Beere. Hast thou any infected part of thy body, take heed to her playsters, and her Surgerie, for she cares

not

not how ſoone a cold ſtrikes to thy heart, if thou art to leaue any thing behind thee to warme her.

One charitable quality ſhe has, for at midnight if ſhe be alone with thee, and perceiues any ſignes of Death in thy ſpeech, thy pillow will ſhe pull away, to haſten thee on thy iorney.

I ſpeake not this againſt all keepers: Heauen forbid, a number of them are motherly, skilfull, carefull, vigilant, and compaſſionate women: good Nurſes indeed, neceſſary helpers in time of ſuch extremity: But I write againſt thoſe, who fearing neither Pere nor Plague, nor death, nor any danger, haue bene the ſpoyle, ruine and confuſion of many a poore ſeruants life; many a Childe hath bene made Fatherleſſe by them, many a mother childleſſe: May they repent and amend.

CHAP. XVI.

The abuſes of Ale-houſes.

VVE are come now to an Epidemiall diſeaſe, a generall calamity, an Impoſtume as wide as a Kingdome: Abuſes of Ale-houſes, what penne can ſet them downe! how many Parliaments haue beene Phyſicians to cure this euill, yet they Roame like Fetters ouer the Body of the Common-weale.

Not to meddle with the Acts and Statutes of all our former Kings, what did King Iames, Anno 1. againſt theſe exorbitants? It was then enacted, that whereas the ancient, true, and principall vſe of Innes, Ale-houſes, and Victualing houſes, was for the receipt, releife, and lodging of way-faying people, to ſupply the wants of ſuch as are not able, by greater quantities to make their prouiſions of Victualls, and not to harbor Idle fellowes, to conſume their money and time in drunkenneſſe; It was therefore enacted, &c. (See the Statute) that for euery offence committed by any Inne-keeper, Alehouſe-keeper, or Victualler, (the offences are there ſet downe,) they ſhould forfeit ten ſhillings to the vſe of the poore, &c. If theſe forfeites were truely paid, as they are truely made, the poore in ſome Parish would liue as merry as the rich.

But now (for all this Act, and for all the other Statutes

for the same purpose established since) How many Parishes in England, how many in and about London, especially through out all the Suburbes doe like Flandes swim as it were, in hot waters, strong Wine, and head-strong Ale.

For to such a hight is this sinne of drinking growne, that Coblers, Tinkers, Pedlers, Porters, all Trades, all professions sit tippling all day, all night, singing, dancing (when they can stand) laughing, cursing, swearing, fighting.

A whole streete is in some place, but a continued Ale-house: Not a shoppe to be seene betweene a Red Lattice, and a Redde Lattice, no workers, but all drinkers, not a Tradesman at his occupation, for every Tradesman keepes (in that place) an Ale-house.

It is an easier life, a lazier life, a Trade more gainefull: no such commings in, as those of the Tappe: insomuch, that in most of the suburbian out-roades, the best men there that command the rest (the Grand Signiors of the Parish) as Constables, Head-boroughs, and other Officers, are common Ale-house-keepers: and hee that can lay in most Gyles of Beere, and bee furnished with the strongest Ale, and headiest Liquor, carries the Bucklers away from all his fellowes.

Now because the fashion of downe-right blowes in the ignoble Schoole of Drinking is growne stale, wickednesse hath invented new sorts of weapons, to bewitch men (that loue such kind of play) to goe reeling to destruction, in some places, they haue little leather Jacks, tip'd with siluer, and hung with small siluer Belles, (these are called the Gyngle-Boyes) to ring peales of drunkennesse.

In other places, they haue shallow browne bowles, which they call Whiskins: Then haue you another Brewing call'd Huffs Ale; of which because, no man must haue but a Pot at a sitting, and so be gone, the restraint makes men more eager to come on: so that by this pollicy, one man may Huffe it foure or fiue times in a day.

These quaffings hurt thousands, and vndoe many poore men who would else follow their labours, but now line in beggery; their Wiues (vnlesse they tipple hard too, as for the most part they doe, by their euill examples) starue at home,

and

and their ragged children begging abroad. Then in some places, (in stead of full quarts) they haue Jugges of a pint and a halfe; with long neckes embroydered with froth: Cans not a wine pint for a penny, Demy cans of draughts a-piece: and a deuice of fire earthen Pipes or hollow Fonnels, all into one, euery Fonnell holding about two spoone-fulls.

If the Acts against these enormities were seuerely executed, and drunkards punished as the Law does sentence them, then would London bee a very sober City: Constables might then sit more quietly in their watch; the two Counters and other Prisons not be haunted with so many Ratts (which are a sort of drunken vermine, that come staggering in at midnight:) and Carpenters might be more set at worke, in making of more new payres of stockes, the old ones what by Bribery, and Conniuence standing too idle.

CHAP. XVIII.

And now to our Discourse of *O per se O*, vnder which name, the Author disguising and shadowing himselfe thus beginnes.

This discourse was sent from a stranger to the Author.

YOu shal know that seruing (in the late Queens time) many yeeres together in the Office of an high Constable, in that County, wherein I now dwell, I drew from the examination of such lewd persons as came before me, the truth of all those villanies which here I publish.

In the mustering of this damned Regiment, I found, that whether they were Rogues taken in Kemboyles, (that is to say, in watches or wards) by the Petty Harman Beck, (who in their company, signifies a petty Constable) or whether they were such as in the Canting tongue are called Mawnders (of begging or demanding,) whether they liued in Bowsing Kens (Ale-houses) or what other course they led of life soeuer any of them spunne, it was euer wound in a blacke bottome

bottome of the most pernicious making vp, that the Deuill could teach them: insomuch that albeit the very Sun-beames could possibly haue written downe the discouery of any grosse villanies by them committed, they would as easily venture vpon damning, in denyall of it with oathes, as if there had bene no hell for such offenders.

For my better painting forth these Monsters, I once tooke one of them into my seruice (being a sturdy big-limb'd yong fellow) of him I desired some knowledge in their gibrish, but how soone hee could not Cant, yet his Rogue-ship seeing himselfe kindly vsed by mee, would now and then shoote out a word of Canting, and being thereupon asked why with oathes he denied it before, he told mee that they are sworne neuer to disclose their skill in Canting to any housholder, for if they do, the other Mvvnders or Rogues, Mill them (kil thē) yet he for his part (he sayd) was neuer sworne, because he was a Clapperdogeon, that is to say, a Begger borne. This Clapperdogeon staid with me so long as he durst, and then bingd a Waste in a darkmans, stole away from me in the night time. So that what intelligence I got from him, or any other trained vp in the same Rudiments of Roguery, I will briefly, plainely, and truely set downe, as I had it from mydiminitiue schoole-master, whō I call by the name of O per se O.

Of him I learned, that the cause why so many of this wicked generation wander vp and downe this Kingdome, is the free command and abundant vse they haue of Women: for if you note them well in their marching, not a Tatterdemallion walkes his round (be he young or be he old) but he hath his Mort or his Doxie at his heeles (his woman or his whore) for in hunting of their rascall Deere this Lawe they hold, when they come to strike a Doe, if she will not weep for a win, let her Trine for a make, if she will not — O per se O, for a penny, let her hang for a halfe-penny.

And this liberty of wenching is increased by the almost infinite numbers of tippling houses, called Bowsing kennes, or of Stalling Kennes, that is to say, houses where they haue ready money for any stolne goods: vnto which nests, Birds fly of the same feather, that the owner is of: for if the Ale-seller be a Horse-stealer, a Cutpurse, a Robber by the high-way, a Theater,

ter, &c. of the same coate are his guests. These houses are the Nurseries of Rogues and Theeues: for how could they bestow cloakes, sheetes, shirts, and other garments being stolne if they had not Stalling Kennes to receiue them? why should Grunters (Pigs) goe whining out of the world, hauing their throats cut by Rogues, if they had not Bowsing Kennes to eate them in? In the Ceremony of whose ragged assemblies, the Bel-man a little mistooke himselfe, for Priggers, Filchers, & Cloyers being all (in English) stealers, vse neither Roast-meate nor Spits in their Feastings as hee furnisheth them, but when they intend to strike a hand, they leaue their damnable tropes in the day, but they sally forth, and share the spoyles in the night. For some one sturdy Bel-hound aboue the rest, vndertakes to be the Miller (that is to say, the killer:) I hope this can be no disgrace to any honest Miller, who is no theefe with a false hopper: And this killer brings to the slaughter-house (viz: a Bowsing K.) a Bleating cheate, (a Sheepe) Another, Mils a Crackmans, breaks a hedge, and that wood heates the Ouen whilest the sheepe is dressed, cut in pieces and put into earthen pots, made for the purpose to bake their victualls in. The Ouens mouth being thus dawbed vp out fly the little Diuels (more damb'd then the Ouen) either to breake an house some two or three miles off, or to doe as bad a villany. The piece of seruice being performed, a Retraite is sounded, and about midnight they returne merrily, fall to their good cheere manfully, & then diuide their spoyles of stolne shirts, smocks or any thing else most theeuishly. In which Partner-ship the Host and Hostesse are chiefe sharers, but such subtill shop-keepers are these Haberdashers of the Diuels small Wares, that they neuer set out to sell, but when the coast is cleare, and that (as Theeues doe among Brokers) the Hue and Crye throat be stopt, that went bawling after them: for about a seuenth night after, (when all is hushed) to the Stalling Kenne goes the Duds for lowre, to the theeuing-house are the stolne clothes sent roundly for money: which being told out and diuided, away flye these Rauens scatteringly, the next prey that they light vpon, being euer at some Faire, or else a Market.

And now that we talke of Faires, let my pen gallop ouer a

few lines, and it shall bring you (without spurring) swiftlier into Glocestershire, then if you rode upon Pegasus, there if you please to alight neare Tewkesbury, at a place called Durrest-Faire, being kept there upon the two Holy-Rode dayes, you shall see more Rogues, then euer were whipt at a Carts Arse through London, and more Beggers then euer came dropping out of Ireland. If you looke upon them, you would thinke you liued in H. the fifts time, and that Iacke Cade & his rebellious rag-amuffins were there muftering. Dunkirk cannot shew such sharkes. The wild Irish are but flockes of wilde Geese to them. And these swarmes of Locustes come to this lowsie Faire, from all parts of the Land, within an hundred miles compasse. To describe the Boothes is lest labour, for let the Hangman shew but his wardrope, and there is not a rag difference betweene them. None here stands crying, What doe you lacke? for you can aske for nothing that is good, but here it is lacking. The buyers and sellers are both alike, tawny Sunne-burnt Rascals, and they flocke in such troopes, that it shewes as if Hell were broke loose. The Shop-keepers are Theeues, and the Chapmen Rogues, Beggers and Whores: so that to bring a purse full of money hither, were madnesse: for it is sure to be cut.

But would you know what Wares these Marchants of Sele-skins vtter: only Duds for the Quarrons, that is to say, cloathes for the body, which they haue pilfered from hedges or houses. And this filthy Faire begins before day and endeth before nine in the same morning: at which breaking vp, they doe not presently march away with their bags and their baggages: but he who is chosen the Lord of the Faire (who is commonly the luskiest rogue in the whole bunch) leads his tottred footmen & foot-women from Ale-house to Ale-house, where being Armed all in Ale of proofe, and their Ben-Bowse (the strong Liquour) causing them to haue Nase Nabs (drunken Core-combes) vp fling they the Cans, downe goe the Boothes, about five broken Iuggs: here lyes a Rogue bleeding, there is a Port cursing, here a Dorie stabbing with her knife: and thus this Faire which begins merrily, ends madly: for Knaues set it vp, and Queanes pull it downe.

Yet

Yet to mæte at this assembly (how far off soeuer they be) they will kæpe their day, though they hop thither vpon one crutch: and it is for seauen causes that they thus bestirre their stumps to be at this vp-sitting, which are these, viz.

1. Euery one as his Rogue-shippe is of Bulke, or can best swagger, desireth to be chosen Lord of the Faire: or if he loose his Lordship, yet to be a retainer at least, and to fight vnder his tottered collours.

2. To mæte with the Sister-hood and Brother-hood of Whores and Wallet-mongers.

3. To share such money as is taken for (Dudde Cheates woone) clothes and things steine.

4. To know how the World goes abroad, what newes in the Deuslile, the Countrey, and where is Kenship (Good) or where (Quire) Naught.

5. To be Bowsie, drunke for company.

6. To bandy their Tawny and weather-beaten forces of Mavvnderers (being of their owne fraternity) against any other troupe of Mountebankes, at any other Fayre or Market, where the lowsie Randeuouz is to be made.

7. Lastly to enact new warme orders for fresh stealing of cloathes, &c. with all manner of Armour for the body, but especially, Stamps (Shoes) because (being Beggers) they are seldome set on horse-backe.

These are the seuen halters that drawe these Hel-hounds to this Fayre, for the least of which seuen, they will venture a hanging.

The Fayre is broken vp, and because it is their fashion at the trussing vp of their packs, to trudge away merrily, I will here teach you what O per se O is, being nothing else but the burden of a Song, set by the Diuell, and sung by his Quire: Of which I will set downe no more but the beginning, because the middle is detestable, the ende abhominable, and all of it damnable.

Thus it sounds:

Wilt thou a begging goe,
O per se O, O per se O,
Wilt thou a begging goe?
Yes verily, yea.

Then muſt thou God forſake,
And to ſtealing thee betake:
O per ſe O, O per ſe O.
Yes verily yes, &c.

This is the Muſicke they vſe in their Libkens (their Lodgings) where thirty or forty of them being in a ſwarme, one of the maſter Diuels ſings, and the reſt of his damned crue follow with the burden: In which mid-night Catterwallings of theirs, nothing is heard but curſing and prophanation, and ſuch ſwearing, as if they were all Knights of the Poſt. Iewes did neuer Crucifie Chriſt with more diſhonour, then theſe Rake-hels, who with new inuented fearefull oathes teare him in pieces: and no maruell, for moſt of thoſe who are Beggers borne, are neuer Chriſtned: beſides they haue in their Canting, a word for the Diuel or the Plague, &c. as Ruffin for the one, and Cannikin for the other: but for God they haue none: only they name him, but it is not in reuerence, but abuſe: all their talke in their naſty Libkens (where they lye like Swine) being of nothing, but Wapping, Nigling, Prigging, Cloying, Flicking, Curſing, and ſuch ſtuffe. Who therefore would pitty ſuch impoſtors, whoſe faces are full of diſſembling, hearts of villany, mouthes of curſes, bodyes of ſores (which they cal their great Cleymes) but layd vpon their fleſh by cunning: whoſe going Abram (that is to ſay naked) is not for want of clothes, but to ſtir vp men to pitty, and in that pitty to cozen their deuotion: now whereas the Bel-man (in his priuy ſearch) found out the neſt of theſe Screech-Owles, pulling of ſome of their feathers, only to ſhew their vglineſſe, but for want of good and perfect eye-ſight, not flaying off their skinnes, as I here purpoſe to doe, and ſo to draw blood, I wil finiſh that which the Bel-man (by being ouer-watched) left lame, and ſhew thoſe abuſes naked to the world, which he neuer diſcouered.

Firſt therefore you ſhall behold the Abram-man in his true colours, his right ſhape, his owne ragges, and then ſhall you heare the phraſe of his Mavvnd or begging.

Next him comes marching the Counterfeit Souldier, with his Mavvnding note too. At his tayle follow Ben-

ſeakers

feakers of Lybes, (that is to say) Counterfeiters of Passe-ports.

Then Dommerars.

Then Clapperdogeons *in their true abiliments, and their* true beggerly Rhetoricke they vse in begging.

Then wil I shew you how they hang together in fraternities, and what Articles of brother-hood they are sworne to: with a note (as good as any Rogues marke they carry about them) how to know these Knot of knaues or these brotherhoods, their names, their Libkins, or Lodgings, their Stawling Kennes, to which all stolne goods are brought. And lastly to shew you that euen in their mirth they are Diuels, you shall heare their true Canting Songs now vsed among them.

In setting downe al which hidden villanies (neuer til this day discouered) you shal find a mixture not onely of al those detestable subtilties, vsed in making those sores which eate into their flesh, but also the trickes and medicines they haue (without helpe of Surgeons) to cure them. I will besides (in their descriptions) here and there sticke words and phrases of their gibberish or beggerly Language, giuing them the stampe presently of true English, which labour I take of purpose to procure delight to the Reader.

Of the Abram *his discription.*

THe Abram Coue, is a lusty strong Rogue, who walketh with a Slade about his Quarrons, a sheete about his body, Trining, hanging to his hammes, bande-lære wise, for al the world as Cutpurses and Theeues weare their sheetes to the Gallowes, in which their Truls are to bury them: oftentimes (because he scornes to follow any fashions of hose) he goes without breeches, a cut Jerkin with hanging sleeues (in immitation of our Gallants) but no Sattin or Chamlet Elbowes, for both his legs & armes are bare, hauing no Commission to couer his body, that is to say, no shirt: A face staring like a Sarisir, his haire long and filthily knotted, for he keepes no Barber: a good Filch (or staffe) of grown Ash, or else Hazel, in his Ramper (in his hand) and sometimes a sharpe sticke, on which he hangeth Ruffe-pecke, Bakon. These walking vp and downe the Countrey, are more terrible to women and children, then the name of Raw-head and Bloody-bones, Robbin-Good-fellow,

or any other Hobgoblin-Crackers tyed to the dogs tayle, make not the poore Curre runne faster, then these Abram Nunnies do the fillie villagers of the Countrey, so that when they come to any doore a begging, nothing is denied them.

Their Markes.

SOme of these Abrams haue the Letters F. and R. vpon their armes: some haue crosses, & some other Parke, all of them carying a blue colour: some weare a yron ring, &c. which marks are printed vpon their flesh, by tying their arme hard with two strings three or foure inches asunder, & then with a sharp Awle pricking or rasing the skinne, to such a figure or print as they best fancy, they rub that place with burnt paper, pisse, and gunpouder, which being hard rubd in, & suffered to dry, sticks in the flesh a long time after: when these markes faile, they renew the at pleasure. If you examine them how these letters or figures are printed vpon their armes, they wil tell you it is the marke of Bedlam, but the truth is, they are made as I haue reported.

And to colour his villany the better, euery one of these Abrams hath a seuerall gesture in playing his part: some make an horrid noyse, hollowly sounding: some whoope, some hollow, some shew only a kind of wild distracted vgly looke, vttering a simple kind of Mawnding, with thes additions of words (well and wisely.) Some dance (but keepe no measure) others leape vp and downe and fetch Gambals, all their actions shew them to be as drunke as Beggars: for not to bely them, what are they but drunken Beggers? All that they beg being either Loure or Bevvle (money or drinke.)

Their Mavvnd *or Begging*

THe first begins, Good Vrship, Master, or good Vrships rulers of this place, bestow your reward on a pore man that hath lien in Bedlā without Bishops-gate three yeres foure moneths, & nine daies. And bestow one piece of smal silver towards his fees which hee is indebted there, the sum of three pounds thirteene shillings, seuen pence halfe peny, (or to such effect) and hath not wherewith to pay the same, but by the good helpe of Vrshipful & wel disposed people, & God to reward thē for it.

The second begins: Now Dame well and vvisely: what wil you giue poore Tom novv? one pound of your sheeps feathers

to

to make poore Tom a Blanket: or one cutting of your Sow side, no bigger thã my arme, or one piece of your Salt meat to make poore Tom a sharing horne: or one crosse of your smal siluer towards the buying of a paire of Shoes, (vvel and wisely) Ah, God blesse my good dame (vvel and wisely) giue poore Tom an old sheete to keepe him from the cold, or an old dublet or Ierkin of my Masters, God saue his life.

Then will he dance and sing or vse some other Antick, and ridiculous gesture, shutting vp his counterfeit Puppet-play, with this Epilogue or conclusion, Good dame giue poore Tom one cup of the best drinke (vvell and wisely) God saue the King and his Counsell, and the Gouernour of this place, &c.

Of Counterfeit Souldiers.

THese may well be called Counterfeit Souldiers, for not one (scarce) among the whole army of them, euer discharged so much as a Caliuer: nothing makes them Souldiers but old Pandilions, which they buy at the Brokers. The weapons they carry are short Crab-tree Cudgels, and these (because they haue the name of Souldiers) neuer march but in troopes two or three in a company: of all sorts of Rogues these are the most impudent and boldest, for they knocke at mens doores, as if they had serious businesse there, whereas the doore being opened to them, they begin this parle.

Their Mawnding.

GEntle Rulers of this place bestow your reward vpõ poore Souldiers, that are vtterly maymed & spoyled in his Maiesties late wars, as wel for Gods cause as his Majesties and yours. And bestow one piece of your small siluer vpon poore men, or somewhat towards a meales meate, to succour them in the way of trueth, &c. for Gods cause. These fellowes go commonly hurt in the left arme beneath the elbow (hauing a Lybe Ierked, that is to say, a Passe-port sealed) with license to depart the colours, (vnder which if you rightly examine them they neuer fought) yet whersoeuer the wars are, and how far off soeuer, thus can they wound themselues at home.

Their making of their Sores.

TAke vnslaked Lime and Sope, with the rust of old yron: these mingled together, and spred thicke on two pieces of leather, which are clapt vpon the arme one against another:

two

two ſmall pieces of wood (fitted to the purpoſe) holding the leathers downe, all which are bound hard to the arme with a garter: which in a few houres fretting the skin with bliſters, and being taken off, the fleſh will appeare all raw, then a linnen cloth being applyed to the raw bliſtered fleſh, it ſticks ſo faſt, that vpon plucking it off it bleedes: which blood (or elſe ſome other) is rubd all ouer the arme, by which meanes (after it is well dried on) the arme appeares blacke, and the ſore raw & reddiſh, but white about the edges like an old wound: which if they deſire to heale, a browne paper with butter and ware being applied, they are cured: and thus (without weapon) do you ſee how our Maunding counterfeit Souldiers come maymed.

Of placing their Sores.

THe Souldier hath his Sore alwayes on his left arme (vnleſſe he be left handed, for then becauſe of the better vſe of that hand it is vpon the right) betwixt the elbow and the wriſt and is called by the name of Souldiers Mavvnd.

When a ſore is placed on the back of the hand, & that he ſaith he was hurt by an horſe, then it is called Foot-mans Mawnd.

When the ſore is aboue the elbow, as if it were broken, or hurt, by falling from a Scaffold, it is called Maions Mavvnd. And thus the altring the place of the ſore, altreth the Mawnd.

Of theſe counterfeit Souldiers, ſome of them being examined will ſay, they were lately Seruing-men, but their Maſter being dead, and the houſhold diſperſed, they are compelled to this baſeneſſe of life for want of meanes. Some of them can play the Abram, be mad Tom-, or elſe beg Rum Mawnd (counterfeit to be a Foole) or elſe that his tongue is tyed and cannot ſpeake, and ſuch like.

Of Ben fakers of Lybes.

THey who are Counterfeiters of Paſſe-ports, are called Ben fakers, that is to ſay, Good-makers: & theſe makers (like the Dinells Hackney-men) lye lurking in euery country, to ſend his Paſſengers poſte to hell. The beſt paſſe-ports that euer I ſaw, were made in S. ſhire, with the hand of one M. W. ſubſcribed vnto them. There was another excellent Ben-faker about P. a Towne in G. ſhire: in S. dwelt another, who tooke two ſhilling & ſix pence (two Boords and ſix winnes) or

two

two Boords and a Flag, for euery Passeport that went out of his beggerly Office, he counterfeited the Seale of L.D.

Of these Ben-speakers I could say much more, if I would bee counted a blabbe: but now the very best of them are made in L. to carry men from thence vnto W.

How to know counterfeit Passe ports.

THe Seales of Noblemen, Gentlemen, Iustices, or any other who haue authority to vse Seales, are grauen in siluer copper, or some other hard stuffe: and those things with are so grauen seale the Armes or such like with sharpe edges, & with a round circle enclosing it, as if it were cut with an instrument of steele, and it maketh a neate and deepe impression: but these counterfeit larkes (or seales) are grauen with the point of a knife, vpon a sticks end, whose roundnesse may well be perceiued from the circle of a common turn'd seale: these for the most part bearing the ilfauoured shape of a Buffars Nab, or a Prancers Nab (a dogs head, or a Horses) & sometimes an Vnicorns, and such like: the counterfeit larke hauing no circle about the edges. Besides, in the Passe-port you shall lightly find these words, viz. For *Salomon* saith. Who giueth the poore, lendeth the Lord, &c. And that Constables shall helpe them to lodgings: And that Curats shall perswade their parishioners, &c.

Another note is, let them be in what part of the Land soeuer they will, yet haue they an hundred miles to goe at least euery one of them hauing his Doxie at his heeles. And thus much of Ben-speakers.

Of Dommerars.

THe Bel-man tooke his markes amisse, in saying that a Dommerar is equall to the Cranke, for of these Dommerars I neuer met but one, & that was at the house of one M.I. of L. This Dommerars name was W. he made a strange noise shewing by fingers acrosse, that his tongue was cut out at Chalke-hill. In his hand he carryed a sticke, about a foote in length, and sharpe at both ends, which he would thrust into his mouth, as if he meant to shew the stumps of his tongue. But in doing so, hee did of purpose bit his tongue with the sticke to make it bleede, which filling vp his mouth, you could not for blood perceiue any tongue at all, because hee had turned it vp-

wards and with his sticke thrust it into his throat. But I caused him to be held fast by the strength of men, vntill such time that opening his teeth with the end of a small cudgell I plucht forth his tongue and made him speake.

Of Clapperdogeons.

A Clapperdogeon is in English a Begger borne: some call him a Pallyard: of which sorts there are two: first, Naturall, secondly, Artificiall. This fellow (aboue al other that are in the Regiment of Rogues) goeth best armed against the crueltie of winter: he should be wise, for he loues to keepe himselfe warme, wearing a patched Castor (a Cloake) for his vpper Robe: vnder that a Togmans (a Gowne) with high Stampers, (shoes) the soles an inch thicke pegged or else patches at his Girdle ready to clap on: a great Scue (a browne dish) hanging at his girdle, & a tassel of Thrums to wipe it. A brace of greasie Night-caps on his head, and ouer them (lest he should catch a knauish cold) a hat (or Nab-chear) a good Filch (or staffe) in his hand, hauing a little yron pegge in the end of it: a Bugher (a little dog) following him, with a smugge Doxy, attyred fit for such a Roguish Companion. At her backe she carrieth a great pack, couered with a patched saue-guard, vnder which she conueieth all such things as she filcheth: her skil sometimes is to tell Fortunes, to helpe the diseases of women and children. As she walkes, she makes bals or shirt-strings (but now commonly they knit) and weares in her hat a needle with a thread at it. An excellent Angler she is: for when her Doue Mounds at any doore if any Poultry ware be picking vp their crummes neere them, she feedeth them with bread, & hath a thred tyed to a hooked pin, baited for the nonce, which the Chickin swallowing is choaked, & conueied vnder the Castor: chickins, linnen, woollen, or any thing that is worth the catching, comes into her net.

Vnder this Banner of the patched Clapperdogeon, do I leuy all Pallyards, as well those of the great Cleyme, or sores, as others, whom I terme Artificiall Clapperdogeons, albeit they are not Beggers borne.

Of their Maund.

This Pallyard (or Artificiall Clapperdogeon, who carrieth about him the great Cleyme) to stir compassion vp in peo-

ples

ples hearts, this acteth his part: he rides to the earth by his staffe, & lying pittiously on the ground, makes a fearefull horrid strange noyse through an hoarse throate, vttering these lamentable tunes: Ah the Vrship of God looke out with your merciful eyne, one pittiful looke vpon sore, lame, grieued and impudent (for impotent) people, sore troubled with the grieuous disease, & haue no rest day nor night by the Canker & worme that continually eateth the flesh from the bone: for the Vrship of God bestow one crosse of your smal siluer, to buy him salue and ointment to ease the poore wretched body, that neuer taketh rest: and God to reward you for it in heauen. These Pallyards walke two or three together, and as one giues ouer his note, the second catcheth it at the rebound, vsing the selfe same howling and grunting, which ended, they say the Lords prayer, & in many places the Aue, neuer ceasing, till something be giuen them.

How they make their great Sores, called the great Cleyme.

THey take Crow-foote, Spearewort, and Salt, and bruising these together, they lay them vpon the place of the bodie which they desire to make sore: the skin by this meanes being fretted, they first clap a linnen cloth, till it sticke fast, which plucked off, the raw flesh hath Rate-bane throwne vpon it, to make it looke vgly: and then cast ouer that a cloth, which is alwayes bloody and filthy, which they do so often, that in the end in this hurt they feele no paine, neither desire they to haue it healed, but with their Doxies will trauell (for all their great Cleymes) from Faire to Faire, & from Market to Market, being able by their Mawnding to get fiue Boords (that is) fiue shillings in a weeke in money and Corne. Which money they hide vnder blew and greene patches: so that sometimes they haue about them fiue pound or seuen pound together.

The Clapperdogeons that haue not the great Cleyme, are called Farmarly Beggers.

Of their Fraternities.

THere is no lustie Rogue, but hath many both sworne Brothers, and the Morts his sworne Sisters: who vow themselues body and soule to the Diuell, to performe these ten Articles following, viz.

Articles of their Fraternities.

THou shalt my true Brother be, keeping thy faith to thy other brothers (as to my selfe) if any such thou haue.

2. Thou shalt keepe my counsel, and all other my brothers, being knowne to thee.

3. Thou shalt take part with me, and all other my brothers in all matters,

4. Thou shalt not heare me ill spoken of, without reuenge to thy power.

5. Thou shalt see mee want nothing, to which thou canst helpe me.

6 Thou shalt giue me part of al thy vvinnings whatsoeuer.

7. Thou shalt not but keepe true pointments with mee for meetings, be it by day or night at what place soeuer.

8. Thou shalt teach no householder to Cant, neither confesse any thing to them, be it neuer so true, but deny the same with oathes.

9. Thou shalt doe no hurt to any Mawnder, but with thine owne hands: and thou shalt forbeare none that discloseth these secrets.

10. Thou shalt take clothes, Hens, Geese, Pigs, Bacon, and such like for thy vvinnings, where euer thou canst haue them.

How to know their Brother-hoods.

WHen at the end of a Towne, wherein a Faire or Market is kept, you see an assembly of them together chiding & brawling but not fighting, then those Coues are sworne brothers. If likewise two Doxies fall together by the eares, whilest the Rogues themselues stand by and fight not, that also is a Brother-hood: for it is one branch of their Lawes to take part with their Doxies in any wrong.

Of their Names.

EVery one of them hath a peculiar Nick-name, proper to himselfe, by the which he is more knowne, more enquired after by his Brothers, and in common familiarity more saluted, then by his owne true name: yea the false is vsed so much, that the true is forgotten. And of these Nick-names, some are giuen to them for some speciall cause: as Olli Compolli is the By-name of some one principall Rogue amongst them, being an Abram, being bestowed vpon him, because by that hee is

knowne

knowne to be the head, or chiefe amongst them: In like manner these Sir-names following belong to other Grand Signiors, and Commanders, viz. Dimber Damber, and Hurley Burley, General Nurse, The High Shreiffe, The Constable, and such like: and some Nick-names are either vpon mockery, or vpon pleasure giuen vnto them: as The great Bul, The little Bul, and many other such like. The great Bull is some one notable lustie Rogue, who getts away all their wenches: for this great Bull (by report) had in one yeere, three and twenty Doxies (his locky was so lusty) such liberty haue they in sinning, and such damnable and most detestable manner of life do they leade.

As the men haue Nick-names, so likewise haue the women: for some of them are called, The white Ewe, The Lambe, &c. And (as I haue heard) there was an Abram, who called his Mort, Madam Wap-apace.

Of their Lib-kens, *or Lodgings.*

AS these Fugitiue Vagabonds haue Nicke-names to themselues, so haue the Lib-kens or Lodgings, and places of meeting: as one of the meeting places (as I haue heard) being a Sheepe-coate, is by the Quest of Rogues who nightly assemble there, called by the name of Stophole Abbey: so likewise another of their Lodgings is called by the same name. Then haue others: as the blew Bull, the Prancer, the Balls belly, the Cowes vdder, the greene Arbour, the blazing Star, &c. Such like By-names giue they also to their Fencing Kens: and note this, that after a robbery done, they lye not without twelue miles at the least of the place where they doe it, but hauing eaten vp their stolne mutton (baked as afore-sayd) away they trudge through thicke and thinne, all the hauens of Hell into which they put in, being alwayes for the most part of an equall distance one from another: for take how far as the one Stophole Abbey stands from the other, and iust so farre is the Balls belly from the Cowes vdder, and so of the rest: so that what way soeuer these night Spirits doe take, after they haue done their deedes of darkenesse, they know what pace to keepe, because (what stormes soeuer fall) they are sure of harbour, all their iourneys being but of one length. Yet dare they not but let their Morts and their Doxies meete them at some of these

places, becauſe how cold ſoeuer the weather be, their Females iuries come hotely and ſmoaking from thence, carrying about them Glymmar in the Prat (ſtre in the touch-bore) by whoſe flaſhes oftentimes there is Glymmar in the locke (the flaſke is blowne vp too) of which dangerous and deadly skirmiſhes the fault is layd vpon Seruing-men dwelling thereabout, who like Free-booters are ſo hungry of flesh, that a Doxie (if ſhe haue a ſmug face) cannot paſſe cut, but ſhee is taken vp for Hawkes meat. And it is no wonder, there is ſuch ſtealing of thoſe wilde Bucks, becauſe there is ſuch ſtore of them: nay is it a maruell there is ſuch ſtore, ſithence he is not held worthy to walke, or to be counted one of the foure and twenty Diuers, but to be baniſhed (as a ſilly Animall & a Kinkard) from all good fellowſhip, ſociety, and meetings at Faires, Markets, and merry Bowſing Kens, who when the Trumpet ſounds (that is to ſay, when the Cuckoe ſings) thruſts not out his head like a Snaile out of his ſhell, and walks not abroad about the Deuſ-vile (the Countrey) with his ſpirit of Lechery & theuing, (his Doxy) at his heeles.

Why the Staffe is called a Filch.

THus much for their Fraternities, Names, Lodgings, and Aſſemblies, at all which times euery one of them carries a ſhort ſtaffe in his hand, which is called a Filch, hauing in the Nab or head of it, a Ferme (that is to ſay, a hole) into which vpon any piece of ſeruice, when hee goes a Filching, he putteth a hooke of yron, with which hooke hee angles at a window in the dead of night, for ſhirts, ſmockes, or any other linnen or woollen: and for that reaſon is the ſtaffe tearmed a Filch. So that it is as certaine that hee is an Angler for Duds, who hath a Ferme in the Nab of his Filch, as that he is a theefe, who vpon the high way cryes ſtand, and takes a purſe. This Staffe ſerueth to more vſes, then either the Croſſe-ſtaffe, or the Iacobs, but the vſes are not ſo good nor ſo honeſt: for this Filching ſtaffe being Artificially handled, is able now and then to Mill a Grunter, a Bleating Cheate, a Red-ſhanke, a Tib of the Buttery, and ſuch like, or to Fib a Coues Quarrons in the Rome pad, for his Loure in his Bung, that is to ſay, to kill a Pigge, a Sheepe, a Ducke, a Goſe, and ſuch like, or to beate a man by the high-way for the money in his purſe.

And

And yet for all these base villanies and others, of what blacknesse soeuer they bee, you shall at euery Assises and Sessions, see swarmes of them boldly venturing amongst the Prisoners: one cause of their tempting their owne danger for, is, that being sworne brothers in league, and partners in one and the same theeuery, it behoues them to listen to the Prisoners confession (which they doe secretly) and so to take their leaues, if they spye a storme comming. Another cause is, to learne what Lime-twigs caught the Bird i'th Cage, and how hee was entangled by the Iustice in his examination, that thereby hee abroad may shun the like: but the Diuell is their Tutor, Hell their Schoole, Theeuery, Roguery, and Whoredome: the Arts they study, before Doctor Story they dispute, and at the Gallowes are made Graduates of Newgate, and other Iayles (the Hang-mans Colledges.) All these fore-named Monsters of a Kingdome (with many others, like them) as they are differing from others in their manner of life, so haue they begotten among themselues as strange a Gibbrish Language, which they call Canting.

Of Canting.

CHAP. XIX.

How long it hath beene a Language: how it comes to bee a Language: how it is deriued: and by whom it is spoken.

You shall therefore know how it grew to bee a Language. When all the World was but one Kingdome, all the People in that Kingdome spake but one Language. A man could trauell in those dayes, neither by Sea nor Land, but hee met his Country-men, and none others. Two could not then stand gabbling with strange tongues, and conspire together (to his owne face) how to cut a third mans throate: but he might vnderstand them. There was no Spaniard (in that age) to braue his enemy in the rich and lofty Castilian: no Romane Orator to pleade in the Rethoricall and Fluent Latine: no Italian to court his Mistresse in the sweete and amorous Tuscane: no Frenchman to parley in the full & stately

phrase

phraſe of Orleans: no Germane to thunder out the high and rattling Dutch, the vnfruitfull crabbed Iriſh, and the volvble ſignificant Welch, were not then ſo much as ſpoken of: the quicke Scottiſh Dialect (ſiſter to the Engliſh) had not then a tongue, neither were the ſtrings to the Engliſh ſpæch (in thoſe times) vntied. When ſhe firſt learned to ſpeake, it was but a broken Language: the ſingleſt and the ſimpleſt words flowed from her vtterance; for ſhe dealt in nothing but in Monoſyllables, (as if to haue ſpoken words of greater length would haue crackt her voice) by which meanes her eloquence was pooreſt, yet hardeſt to learne, and ſo (but for neceſſity) not regarded amongſt ſtrangers. Yet afterwards thoſe Nobleſt Languages lent her words and Phraſes, and turning thoſe borrowings into good husbandry, ſhee is now as rich in Elocution and as aboundant, as her proudeſt and beſt ſtored neighbors.

Engliſh tongue cõparable to the beſt.

Whileſt thus (as I ſayd before) there was but one Alphabet of Letters for all the World to read by: all the people that then liued, might haue wrought vpon one piece of worke in Countries farre diſtant aſunder, without miſtaking one another, and not needing an Interpreter to runne betweene them, which thing Nymrod (the firſt Idolater) perceiuing, and not knowing better how to imploy ſo many thouſand Millions of Subjects as bowed before him: a fire of Ambition burned within him, to climbe vp ſo high that he might ſee what was done in heauen. And for the purpoſe, workemen were ſummoned from all the corners of the earth, who preſently were ſet to build the Tower of Babel. But the maſter workeman of this great Vniuerſe (to checke the inſolence of ſuch a ſawcy builder) that durſt raiſe vp Pinacles equall to his owne (aboue) commanded the ſelfe ſame Spirit, that was both hred in the Chaos, and had maintained it in diſorder, to be both Surveyor of thoſe workes, and controller of the Labourers. This Meſſenger was called Confuſion. It was a Spirit ſwift of ſight, and faithfull of ſeruice. Her lookes wild, terrible and inconſtant: her attire careleſly loſe, and a thouſand ſeuerall colours. In one hand ſhe grip'd a heape of ſtormes, with which (at her pleaſure) ſhe could trouble the waters: in the other ſhe held a whip,

Building of Babel.

Confuſion deſcrib'de.

whip, to make thæ Spirits that drew her, to gallop fast before her: the Spirits names were Treason, Sedition, and Warre, who, at every time when they went abroad, were ready to set Kingdoms in an uproare. She rode upon a Chariot of clouds, which was alwayes furnished with Thunder, Lightning, Windes, Raine, Hailestones, Snow, and all the other Artillery belonging to the seruice of Divine Vengeance: and when thæ spake, her voyce sounded like the roaring of so many Torrents, boysterously strugling together, for betweene her jawes did she carry 100000. tongues.

This strange Linguist stepping to every artificer that was there at worke, whispered in his eare: whose lookes were there upon (presently) fil'd with a strange distraction: and on a sudden, whilest every man was speaking to his fellow, his Language altered, and no man could understand what his fellow spake. They all stared one upon another, yet none of them all could tel wherefore they so stared. Their tongues went, and their hands gaue action to their tongues, yet neither words nor action were understood. It was a noyse of a thousand sounds, and yet the sound of the noyse was nothing. Hee that spake, knew he spake well: and he that heard, was mad that the other spake no better. In the end they grew angry one with another, as thinking they had mocked one another of purpose: so that the Mason was ready to strike the Brick-layer, the Brick-layer to beate out the braines of his Labourer: the Carpenter tooke up his axe to throw at the Caruer, whilest the Caruer was stabbing at the Smith, because hee brought him an Hammer, when hee should haue made him a Chizzell. He that called for Timber, had Stones and before him: whenone was sent for Nayler, he fetcht a Tray of Morter. Beginning of Languages.

Thus Babel should haue bin raised, and by this meanes Babell fell. The frame could not goe forward, the stuffe was thrown by, the workemen made holyday. Every one pack'd up his Tooles to be gone, yet not to goe the same way that hee came, but glad was he that could meete another whose speech he understood: for to what place soeuer hee went others (that ran madding vp and downe) hearing a man speake like themselues, followed onely him: so that they who when the worke

began were all Country men, before a quarter of it was finished, fled from one another, as from enemies and strangers. And in this manner did men at the first make vp Nations: thus were words coyned into Languages, and out of those Languages haue others béene moulded since, onely by the mixture of Nations after Kingdomes haue beene subdued. But I am now to speake of a People and a Language, of both which (many thousands of yéeres since that Wonder wrought at Babel) the world till now neuer made mention: yet confusion neuer dwelt more among any Creatures. The Belman (in his first Voyage which he made for Discouries) found them to be Sauages, yet liuing in an Iland very temperate, fruitfull, full of a Noble Nation, rarely gouerned. The Lawes, manners, and habits of these Wild-men are plainly set downe, as it were in a former painted Table. Yet lest happily a stranger may desire to looke vpon this second picture of them who neuer beheld the first, it shall not be amisse (in this place) to repeate ouer againe, the names of all the Tribes, into which they Diuide themselues, both when they serue abroad in the open fields, and when they lye in Garrison within Townes and walled Cities.

The Belmans first booke.

And these are their Rankes, as they stand in order, viz.

Vffelers.
Vpright-men.
Hookers *Alias* Anglers.
Rogues.
Wilde Rogues.
Priggers of Prancers.
Pallyards.
Fraters.
Prigges.
Swadlers.
Curtals.
Irish Toyle.
Swigmen.
Iarkemen.
Patri-coes.
Kitchin-Coes.
Abram-men.
Mad Tom, *alias* of Bedlam.
Whip-Iackes.
Counterfet Crankes.
Dommerars.
Glymmerer
Bawdy-Baskets.
Autem Morts.
Doxies.
Dells,
Kitchin-Morts.

Into

Into thus many Regiments are they now diuided: but in former times (aboue foure hundred yéeres now past) they did consist of fiue Squadrons onely.

Viz.
1. Cursitors, *alias* Vagabonds.
2. Faytors.
3. Robardesmen.
4. Draw-latches.
5. Sturdy Beggers.

And as these people are strange both in names and in their conditions, so do they speake a Language (proper only to themselues called Canting, which is more strange. By none but the Soldiers of these tottered Bands it is familiarly or vsually spoken, yet within lesse then fourescore yéeres (now past) not a word of this language was known. The first inuentor of it was hang'd, yet left he apt Schollers behind him, who haue reduced that into Method, which he on his death-bed (which was a paire of Gallowes) could not so absolutely perfect as he desired.

Of Canting. How long Canting hath bin vsed. The first Canter hanged.

It was necessary that a people (so fast increasing, and so daily practising new and strange Villanies) should borrow to themselues a speech (which so neere as they could) none but themselus should vnderstand: and for that cause is this Language (which some call Pedlers French) inuented to this intent that (albeit any Spyes should secretly steale into their companies to discouer them, they might freely vtter their minds one to another, yet auoid the danger. The language therefore of Canting, they study euen from their infancy, that is to say, from the very first houre that they take vpon them their names of Kitchin-Coes, till they are growne Ruffiers, or Vpright-men, which are the highest in degree amongst them.

How Canting grew; to be a language.

This word Canting, seemes to be deriued from the Latine Verbe (Canto) which signifies in English, to sing, or to make a sound with words, that is to say, to speake. And very aptly may Canting take his deriuation, a cantando, from singing, because amongst these beggerly consorts that can play vpon no better instruments, the Language of Canting is a kind of Musicke, and he that in such assemblies can Cant best, is counted the best Musitian.

Now as touching the Dialect or phrase it selfe, I see not

that it is grounded vpon any certaine rules; And no marueil if it haue none, for ſithence both the Father of this new kinde of Learning, and the children that ſtudy to ſpeake it after him haue beene from the beginning, and ſtill are the Breeders and Nouriſhers of all baſe diſorder, in their liuing and in their Manners: how is it poſſible, they ſhould obſerue any Method in their ſpeech, and eſpecially in ſuch a Language, as ſerues but onely to vtter diſcourſes of villanies?

And yet (euen out of all that Irregularity, vnhandſomnes, and fountaine of Barbariſme) do they draw a kind of forme: and in ſome words, (as well ſimple as compounds) retaine a certaine ſalt, taſting of ſome wit and ſome Learning. As for example, they call a cloake (in the Canting tongue) a Togeman, and in Latine, Toga ſignifies a Gowne, or an vpper garment. Pannam is bread: and Panis in Latine is likewiſe bread: Caſſan is Cheeſe, and is a word barbarouſly coyn'd out of the Subſtantiue Caſeus, which alſo ſignifies Cheeſe. And ſo of others.

Then by ioyning of two ſimples, doe they make almoſt all their compounds. As for example: Nab (in the canting tongue) is a head, & Nab cheat is a hat, or a cap: which word cheat being coupled to other words, ſtands in very good ſtead, and does excellent ſeruice: For a Smelling cheat, ſignifies a Noſe, a Prating cheat, is a tongue: Craſhing cheat are teeth: Hearing cheates, are Eares, Fambles are Hands: and thereupon a ring is called a Fambling cheat, A Muffling cheate, ſignifies a Napkin. A Belly cheate, an Apron: A Grunting cheate, a Pig: Cackling cheate, a Cock or a Capon: A Quacking cheate a Calfe, or a Sheep: & ſo may that word be married to many others beſides.

The Dialect or Canting.

The word Coue, or Cofe, or Cuffin, ſignifies a man, a fellow, &c. But differs ſomething in his property, according as it meets with other words: For a Gentleman is called a Gentry Coue, or Cofe: A good fellow is a Bene cofe: a Churle is called, a Quier Cuffin; Quier ſignifies naught & cuffin (as I ſayd before) a man: and in canting they terme a Iuſtice of peace, (becauſe he puniſheth them belike) by no other name then by Quier cuffin, that is to ſay, a Churle, or a naughty man. And ſo Ken ſignifying a houſe, they call a priſon, a Quier Ken, that is to ſay, an ill houſe.

Many

Many pieces of this strange coyne could I shew you, but by these small stamps you may judge of the greater.

Now because a Language is nothing else, then heapes of words, orderly wouen and composed together: and that within so narrow a circle as I haue drawne to my selfe, it is impossible to imprint a Dictionary of all the canting phrases: I wil at this time, not make you surfeit on too much: but as if you were walking in a garden, you shall onely picke here a flower, and there another, which (as I take it) will be more delightfull then if you gathered them by handfulls.

But before I leade you into that walke, stay and heare a Canter in his owne language making Rithmes, albeit I think those charmes of Poesie which (at the first) made the barbarous tame, and brought them to ciuility, can vpon these sauage monsters worke no such wonder. Yet thus he sings (vpon demand whether any of his owne crue did come that way) to which hee answeres, yes quoth he.

Canting Rithmes.

ENough with Bowsie Coue maund Nace,
Toure the Patring Coue in the Darkmans case,
Docked the Dell for a copper make,
His watch shall seng a Prounces Nab-cheate,
Cyarum by Salmon, and thou shalt pek my lere,
In thy Gan for my watch it is nace gere,
For the beene bowse my watch hath a win, &c.

This short Lesson I leaue to bee construed by him that is desirous to try his skill in the Language, which he may doe by helpe of the following Dictionary: into which way that hee may more readily come, I will translate into English, this broken French that followes in prose. Two Canters hauing wrangled a while about some idle quarrell, at length growing friends, thus one of them speakes to the other, viz.

A Canter in prose.

STowe you bene Cose; and cut benar whiddes, and bing we to Rome vile, to nip a boung: so shall wee haue Loure for the bowsing ken, and when we bing backe to the Dewse-vile, we will filch some Duds off the Ruff-mans, or mill the Ken for a Lagge of Duds.

Thus in Englisht.

Stow you bene Cofe: hold your peace good fellow
And cut benar whiddes: and ſpeake better wordes.
And bing we to Rome vile: and goe we to London.
To nip a boung: to cut a purſe.
So ſhall we haue lowre: ſo ſhall we haue money.
For the Bowſing Ken: for the Ale-houſe.
And when we bing backe: and when we come backe.
To the Deuſea-vile: into the Country.
We will filch ſome Duds: we will filch ſome clothes,
Off the Ruffe-mans: from the hedges.
Or Mill the Ken: or rob the houſe.
For a lagge of Duds: for a bucke of clothes.

Now turne to your Dictionary.

AND becauſe you ſhall not haue one diſh twice ſet before you, none of thoſe Canting words that are Engliſhed before, ſhall here bee found: for our intent is to feaſt you with variety.

The Canters Dictionary.

AVtem, a Church.
Autem-mort, a married woman.
Boung, a purſe.
Borde, a ſhilling.
Halfe a Borde, fiue-pence.
Bowſe, drinke.
Bowſing Ken, an Ale-houſe.
Bene, good.
Beneſhip, very good.
Bufe, a Dogge.
Bing a Waſt, get you hence.
Caſter, a cloake.
A Commiſſion, a ſhirt.
Chates, the Gallowes.
To cly the Ierke, to be whipped.
To cut, to ſpeake.
The cut bene, to ſpeake gently.
To cut bene whiddes, to ſpeake good words.
To cut quier whiddes, to giue euill language.
To Cant, to ſpeake.

To couch a hogshead, to lye downe asleepe.
Drawers, Hosen.
Dudes, cloathes.
Darkemans, the night.
Deusea-vile, the Country.
Dub the Giger, open the doze
Fambles, hands.
Fambling Chete, a Ring.
Flagge, a Groat.
Glasiers, eyes.
Gan, a mouth.
Gage, a Quart-Pot.
Grannam, Corne.
Gybe, a writing.
Glymmer, fire.
Gigger, a dooze.
Gentry Mort, a Gentle-woman.
Gentry Cofes Ken, a Noble mans house.
Harman-beck, a Constable.
Harmans, the Stockes,
Heaue a bough, rob a Booth.
Iarke, a Seale.
Ken, a House.
Lage of Dudes, a bucke of clothes.
Libbedge, a Bed,
Lowre, money.
Lap, Butter, Milke, or Whay.
Libkin, a House to lye in.
Lage, Water.
Light-mans, the day.
Myn, Gold.
A Make, a Halfe-penny.
Margery Prater, a Hen.
Mawnding, asking,
To Mill, to steale.
Mill a Ken, rob a house,
Nose gent, a Gun.
Niggling, companying with a woman.
Prat, a Buttocke.

Peck.

Peck, meate.
Poplars, Pottage.
Prancer, a Horſe.
Prigging, riding.
Patrico, a Prieſt,
Pad, away.
Quaromes, a Body.
Ruff-peck, Bacon,
Roger, or Tib of the Buttry, a Gooſe.
Rome-vile, London.
Rome bowſe, Wine,
Rome Mort, a Quæne.
Ruff-mans, the woods or buſhes.
Ruffian, the Diuell.
Stampes, Legges.
Stampers, ſhoes,
Slate, a ſheete.
Skew, a cup.
Solomon, the Maſſe.
Stu'ingken: a houſe to receiue ſtolne goods.
Skipper, a Warne.
Strommell, Straw.
Smelling cheate, an Orchard or Garden,
To ſcowre the Crampring, to weare bolts.
Stalling, making or ordaining.
Tryning, hanging,
To towre, to ſee.
Wyn, a penny.
Yarum, milke.

And thus haue I buſied vp a little Mint, where you may coyne words for your pleaſure. The payment of this was a debt, for the Bel-man at his farewell (in his firſt Round which he walked) promiſed ſo much. If he keepe not touch, by tendring the due Summe, he deſires forbearance, and if any that is more rich in this Canting commoditie will lend him any more, or any better, hee will pay his loue double: In the meane time receiue this, and to giue it a little more waight, you ſhall haue a Canting Song, wherein you may learne, how

This

This cursed Generation pray, or (to speake trueth) curse such Officers as punish them.

A Canting Song.

THe Ruffin cly the nab of the Harman-beck,
If we Maund Pannam, lap, or Ruffe peck,
Or poplars of yraum: he cuts, bing to the Ruff-mans,
Or else he sweares by the light-mans,
To put our stamps in the Harmans.
The Ruffian cly the Ghost of the Harmanbeck,
If we heaue a Booth we cly the Ierke.
If we niggle or mill a Bowsing Ken,
Or nip a Boung that hath but a Win,
Or dup the giger of a Gentry Cofes Ken,
To the quier Cuffing we bing,
And then to the quier Ken to scowre the cramp-ring
And then to be Trin'de on the chates in the light-mans,
The Bube and the Ruffian cly the Harmanbeck and Harmans.

Thus Englished.

THe Diuell take the Constables head,
If we beg Bacon, Butter-milke or bread:
Or Pottage, to the hedge he bids vs hie.
Or sweares (by this light) i'th stocks we shall lye:
The Diuell haunt the Constables Ghost,
If we rob but a Booth we are whipt at a post.
If an Ale-house we rob, or be tane with a Whore,
Or cut a purse that hath just a penny and no more,
Or come but smaling in at a Gentlemans doore,
To the Justice straight we goe,
And then to the Jayle to be shackled: And so
To be hang'd on the Gallowes i'th day time: the pox
And the Diuell take the Constable and his stocks.

Another sung by the Canters at their meeting.

1. BIng out bien Morts and toure, and toure,
bing out bien Morts and toure:
For all your Duds are bing'd awast,
the bien Coue hath the loure.

2. I met a Dell, I viewd her well,
ſhe was benſhip to my watch:
So ſhe and I did ſtall and cloy,
what euer we could catch.
2. This Doxie Dell, can cut bien whids,
and wap well for a win:
And Prig and cloy ſo beuſhiply,
all the Deuſe a-vile within.
4. The boyle was vp, we had good lucke,
in froſt, for and in Snow:
When they did ſeeke, then did we creepe,
and plant in Ruff-mans low.
5. To Strawling Ken, the Mort bings then
to fetch lowre for her cheats:
Duds and Ruffe-peck rombol'd by Harmanbeck,
and won by Mawnders feats:
6. You mawnders all, ſtow what you ſtall,
to Rome coues what ſo Quire:
And wapping Dell, that niggles well,
and takes loure for her hire.
7. And lybe well Ierkt, tick rome confeck,
for backe by glymmar to Mawnd:
To Mill each Ken, let coue bing then,
through ruff-mans Iague or laund.
8. Till crampring? Quire, tip Coue his hire,
And Quier Ken doe them catch:
A canniken; mill Quire cuffen,
ſo Quier to ben Coues watch.
9. Bien dark-mans then, Bouſe Mort, and Ken,
the bien Coues bings a waſt:
On chates to trine by Rome-coues dine,
for his long lib at laſt.
10. Bingd out bien Morts and toure,
bing cut of the Rome-vile:
And towre the coue that cloyd your duds,
vpon the chates to trine.

Thus for ſatisfaction of the Reader, Engliſhed.

1. GO forth (braue Girles) looke out looke out,
looke out I ſay (good Conies)
For all your clothes are ſtolne (I doubt)
mad Shauers ſhare the monies.

2. I met a Drab, I lik't her well,
(my bowles did fit her Alley:)
We both did vow to rob pell mell,
and ſo abroad did ſally.

3. This bouncing Trull can rarely talke,
a penny will make her—:
Through any towne which ſhe doth walke,
nought can her filching ſcape.

4. The houſe being raiſ'd, aſide we ſtep,
and through the mire did wade:
To auoyde Hue and Cry to a hedge we crept,
And vnder it cloſe were layd.

5. To the Brokers then my hedge-bird flyes,
for ſtolne goods bringing coyne:
Which (though the Conſtable after hies)
our trickes away purloyne.

6. You Mawnding Rogues, how you ſteale beware,
for priuie ſearch is made:
(Take heed thou to thon hackny Mare)
who nere art ridden, but paid.

7. A Licence got with counterfeit Seale,
to begge (as if vndone
By fire) to breake each houſe, and ſteale,
ore hedge and ditch, then runne.

8. Till Shackels ſoundly pay vs home,
and to the Jayle compell vs:
Hels plague the Juſtice heart conſume,
ſo cruell to good fellowes.

9. Sweet Punke, beere-houſe, and bare good night,
the honeſt Rogue's departed
To hanging (by the Juſtice ſpite)
to his long home hee's carted.

10. Away ſweete Ducks, with greedy eyes,
from London walke vp Holborne:
Sue him who ſtole your clothes: he flyes,
with hempen wings to Tyborne.

Another.

1. DOxie oh! thy Glaziers ſhine,
as Glymmer; by the Salomon:
No Gentry Mort hath Prats like thine,
no Dell ere Wap'd with ſuch a one.
2. White thy Fambles, red thy Gan,
and thy Quarrons dainty is:
Couch a Hogs-head with me than,
in the Dark-mans clip and kiſſe.
3. What though I no Caſter were.
nor Commiſsion, no nor Slate,
Store of Strommell weele haue here,
and i'th skipper Lib in State,
4. Niggling thou (I know) doſt loue,
elſe the Ruffin cly thee Mort:
From thy ſtampers then remoue,
Thy Drawers and let's prig in ſport.
5. When the Lightmans vp does call
Margery Prater from the neſt:
And her cackling cheat withall,
in a Bowſing Ken weele feaſt.
6. There (if Loure we want) Ile Mill
a Gage, or Nip for thee a Boung:
Ben Bowſe thou ſhalt Bowſe thy fill,
and craſh a grunting cheat thats young.
7. Bing a waſte to Rome-vile then,
(O my Doxie, O my Dell)
Weele heaue a Booth, and Dock agen,
and Tryning ſcape and all is well.

Thus Engliſhed.

1. OPy chucke,—by'th Maſſe I ſweare,
thine eyes, than fire doe ſhine moze cleare:
No Ruſtling Girle hath thighs like thine,
no Doe was euer Buck'd like mine,

2. White

2. White thy hand is, red thy lippe,
thy dainty body Ile not skippe;
To sleepe, then downe our selues lets lay,
and coll i'th darke, and kisse and play.
3 Say I a Plimmouth cloake doe weare,
say, that no shirt, nor shéete I beare:
Yet straw wée'le haue, both fresh and swéete,
and tumble when i'th Barne we meete.
4. Thou doest (I know) the old sport loue.
(else may the foule fiend in thée moue)
Doffe thou then thy Shoone and Hose,
and lets too't with downe-right blowes.
5. When the morning vp shall call,
from his roost the Cocke and all:
His cackling wiues,—then thou and I,
at Tappe-house will for strong Ale cry.
5. There if wée want our shot to pay,
Ile filch, or nip, and steale away.
Sucke off thy Liquor then thy fill,
some sucking Pig for thee Ile kill:
6. To London therefore vp lets hie,
(ô thou my sweete bewitching eye:)
There weele rob and too't Pell Mell,
and Tyborne scape, and all is well.

Another.

1. NOw my Kinchin coue is gone,
by the Rome-Pad Maundred none:
In Quarrons both for stamps and bone,
like my clapperdogeon.
2. Dimber Damber fare thee well,
Pallyards all thou didst excell:
And thy Iocky bare the Bell,
Glymmer on it neuer fell.
3. Thou the Cramp-rings nere didst scowre,
Harmans had on thee no power:
Harman-becks did neuer Towre,
for thee, tho Drawers still had Loure:
4. Dads and Cheats thou oft hast wonne,
yet the Cuffin Quire couldst shunne:

And thy Deuſe a-vile didſt runne,
else the Chates had thee vndone.
5. Canke and Dommerar thou couldſt play,
or Rum Mawnder in one day:
And like an Abram coue couldſt pray,
yet paſſe with Iybes (well Ierk't away.)
6. When the Dark-mans have beene wet,
thou the crack-mans downe didſt beate,
For Glymmar whileſt a quacking cheate,
or Tib ath' Buttery was our meate.
7. Red-ſhankes then I could not lacke,
Ruffe-peck ſtill hung at my backe\
Grannam euer fil'd my lacke:
With Lap and Poplars held I tacke.
8. To thy Bughar and thy skew,
Filch and Iybes I bid adue:
Though thy Togeman were not new,
yet the Ruffler in't was true.

Another, Thus Engliſhed.

1. NOw my little Rogue is gone,
by the high-way begs there none:
In body both for legg and bone,
like my Clapperdogeon.
2. Pretty Raſcall fare thee well,
all Beggers borne thou doeſt excell:
Thy thraſhing-flayle ſtill bare the Bell,
for into th'fire it neuer fell.
3. Bolts my boy did neuer weare,
neuer thou the Stocks didſt feare:
For thee no Conſtable did ſweare,
for in thy Purſe, thou cash do'ſt beare.
4. Cloathes by ſtealth thou oft haſt won,
yet the Juſtice fingers ſhunne:
And vp and downe the Country rome,
the Gallowes elſe had thee vndone.
5. Dumb and mad-man thou couldſt play,
or a flattering foole all day:
And like a lucky Rogue couldſt pray,
yet ſcaps with paſſes ſcald away.

6. When the Euening has beene wet,
thou the hedges downe didſt beat:
For Fire, and some of Ducks wouldſt cheate,
or elſe a fat gooſe was our meate.
7. Mallards then I could not lacke,
Bacon hung euer at my backe.
Some likewiſe allwayes fil'd my ſacke;
with good Milke Pottage held I tack:.
8. To thy Curre and diſh adue,
thy ſtaffe and paſſe I here muſt view:
Though thy *Caſtor was not new, Cloake
my braue ſtrong Rogue in't yet was true.

Enough of this, and he that deſires more pieces of ſuch Pedlary ware, may out of this little poake, fit himſelfe with any colours.

Vale.

FINIS.